# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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*FBIS-NES-89-226* *27 November 1989*

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## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab League Ministers Gather for Emergency Session

#### Saudi Minister Arrives in Tunis

*LD2511224389 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2205 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Tunis, 25 Nov (SPA)—His Excellency Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state and member of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Tunis this evening. He will head the kingdom's delegation to the emergency session of the Arab League Council, which will be held tomorrow morning, Sunday, at the request of the State of Palestine.

Iraq's 'Aziz Arrives in Tunis

*JN2611080989 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Tunis last night heading the Iraqi delegation to the extraordinary session of the Arab League Council due to be held at the foreign ministers' level today at the request of the State of Palestine to discuss developments pertaining to the Palestine question.

Tariq 'Aziz was welcomed at the airport by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, the permanent Iraqi representative at the Arab League, and the Iraqi Embassy staff in Tunis. [passage omitted]

#### Council Meeting Postponed

*LD2611094189 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] It has been learned from a responsible source at the General Secretariat of the Arab League that the emergency meeting of the league's Council, which was requested by the State of Palestine to look into the latest developments in the peace process in the Middle East and to adopt a unified Arab stance on this, has been postponed.

#### Iraq's 'Aziz Meets Tunisian Counterpart

*JN2611150689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Tunis, 26 Nov (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Abdelhamid Escheikh, Tunisian minister of foreign affairs, in Tunis today. During the meeting, they discussed aspects of bilateral relations and ways to promote them. They also reviewed a number of current Arab issues. The meeting was attended by the head of the Arab Department at the Foreign Ministry and the Iraqi ambassador in Tunis.

Tariq 'Aziz arrived in Tunis last night to attend the extraordinary session of the Arab League Council, which was postponed today until an unspecified date.

#### 'Aziz Meets PLO's 'Arafat

*JN2611181689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Tunis, 26 Nov (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held talks here today with Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine.

The talks reviewed Iraqi-Palestinian relations and the positive improvement in these relations, which has helped support the Palestinian people's gains on both Arab and international levels. They also reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East and the escalation in the Palestinian people's intifadah in the occupied Arab territories and means to support it so that it can continue the march until the establishment of the Palestinian state.

The talks were attended by the head of the Foreign Ministry's Arab Department and Hamid 'Alwan, Iraq's ambassador in Tunis.

#### 'Aziz Confers With Chedli Klibi

*JN2611182089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Tunis, 26 Nov (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, in Tunis today. During the meeting, they reviewed the joint Arab action and ways to support its institutions. They also discussed a number of current Arab issues, foremost of which are the Palestine question and developments in the Lebanese crisis. The meeting was attended by the head of the Arab Department at the Foreign Ministry and Hamid 'Alwan, Iraq's permanent representative at the Arab League.

### Syrian-Egyptian Flights To Resume 'Next Week'

*JN2411162889 Manama WAKH in English 1535 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 24 (GNA)—Syrian and Egyptian national air carriers will resume flights between Cairo and Damascus next week to end more than a decade-old suspension, according to Kuwaiti daily 'AL-WATAN' Friday.

Flight officials from the two sides have been on constant contacts over the matter in the past two weeks, the paper said quoting a senior official of the Egyptian aviation authority.

The two sides are now working out details of flight schedules and reopening offices of Egyptair and the Syrian Airlines in Damascus and Cairo.

The move is in line with clear signs that Egypt and Syria were heading for restoratin of diplomatic and normal ties between them.

## Palestinian Affairs

### 'Sources' Cited on PLO's Reply to Baker Plan

*JN2411093489 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic*
*22 Nov 89 pp 1, 24*

["Exclusive"]

[Text] Tunis—High-ranking Palestinian sources have revealed to AL-WATAN details of the "war of letters" between the PLO and the U.S. Administration, and of the new phase in that war represented by the Palestinian reply to Baker's plan for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. The reply was conveyed by PLO Executive Committee Member Jamal al-Surani to Cairo for the Egyptians to pass to the United States.

The new Palestinian reply confirms the PLO's rejection of the "conditions" laid down by the U.S. Administration to begin the dialogue, because they cancel the existence of the PLO.

The same sources said that during a series of meetings held in the past few days in Tunis under President Yasir 'Arafat, the Palestinian leadership discussed the U.S. reply to the Palestinian questions addressed to Washington and also the reply to the reply letter. The sources pointed out that Baker's reply to the Palestinian questions includes:

1. The United States will accept Egypt's decision not to replace the Palestinians but to consult with them. The United States believes that the delegation should be named by the principal or effective political forces in the Palestinian movement, and this should not be announced before the start of the dialogue because it would abort the process before it begins.

2. Israel has no right to "veto" the formation of the Palestinian delegation, but we cannot force it to sit with persons unacceptable to it. The same goes for the Palestinians.

3. We believe that the Palestinian delegation should be formed from inside and outside [the occupied territories], provided that the majority of its members are from inside and that it includes two deportees.

4. The basis and subject of the dialogue are elections and the negotiations process. The Palestinian delegation can mention in the opening statement the Egyptian 10 points without provoking the other side. The United States will acknowledge the statement issued by Former Secretary of State George Shultz on 16 September 1988.

5. The United States will not object to Resolutions 242 and 338. Also, it will not object to the international conference provided it is held at the appropriate time and with the appropriate structure.

The source pointed out that during the Palestinian leadership's first meeting, a preliminary discussion was held about Baker's reply, and it was agreed to prepare a Palestinian reply, which was discussed the following day and to which many amendments were introduced. It was also agreed to reformulate the draft reply approved during the third meeting. In particular, the reply included the following points:

1. From the very beginning, the reply of the U.S. secretary of state ignores the PLO's role in forming its delegation to the dialogue. Furthermore, the U.S. reply completely denies the existence of the PLO when it talks about "principal and effective political forces inside the Palestinian movement. Here, it appears that the U.S. position responds to the position of the Israeli Government, which rejects negotiating, directly or indirectly, with the PLO." [quotation marks as published]

2. The U.S. Administration demands the acceptance of Baker's 5-point plan in advance—an acceptance unrelated to the principles of the dialogue. The PLO's response to the five points is clearly related to Palestinian principles for the dialogue and the U.S. Administration's response.

3. Based on the right of equivalence, the PLO affirms that no one has the right to intervene directly or indirectly in the manner in which the PLO forms its delegation.

4. The U.S. response regarding the dialogue's agenda constitutes a U.S. response to the Israeli conditions by limiting the agenda to elections and negotiations about these elections.

5. The U.S. reply mentions the international conference on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338. Based on the fact that the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue is a preparatory step for the international conference, the PLO suggests that this dialogue be held under international auspices.

6. Recalling the Palestinian peace initiative and the resolutions of the Arab summit conference in Casablanca, the PLO would like to express its determination to make a serious contribution to the efforts to push the peace process forward in the Middle East.

Based on this, the PLO's response to Baker's points is based on the resolutions adopted by the PLO Central Council in Baghdad, which are related to holding the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue on the following terms:

1. Readiness to hold the dialogue between the delegation of the PLO, which represents the Palestinian people both inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territory, and a delegation from the Israeli Government.

2. The agenda for this dialogue should be open and without preconditions. Each side can raise whatever issue it wishes, including the subject of elections in the occupied Palestinian territories and the Egyptian 10 points in compliance with the U.S. adherence to the aforementioned Shultz statement.

3. The dialogue should be held under the auspices of the United Nations, the UN Security Council permanent members, Egypt, and Sweden.

4. This dialogue should form a preparatory step for the international conference for peace in the Middle East, which should be convened under the auspices of the United Nations; on the basis of the resolutions of international legitimacy; with the participation of all sides to the conflict in the region; and with the attendance of the UN Security Council five permanent members to achieve the just and comprehensive solution in the region.

### DFLP's Hawatimah Says PLO Rejects Baker Plan

*JN2511180089 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 23 Nov 89 p 31*

[From Fathi al-Barqawi in Tunis]

[Text] Tunis—Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], has said the PLO has rejected U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's plan for holding a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

In a statement to AL-ANBA', Hawatimah explained that, at the conclusion of a 3-day meeting in Tunis of the Palestinian leadership, the PLO decided to reject Baker's five-point plan. The Palestinian reply to Baker's plan also comprises five points, Hawatimah said.

Hawatimah indicated that the Palestinian reply that PLO Executive Committee Member Jamal al-Surani delivered to Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid includes the following points:

—The PLO has the right to form the Palestinian delegation from both inside and outside [the Palestinian territories].

—The agenda must be open and without any preconditions. In plain terms, this means rejecting the argument that Baker's plan, Shamir's plan, or the 10-Egyptian points, whether taken individually or collectively, should form an agenda and demanding that the agenda be left open to include all issues.

—The Palestinian side is committed to the Palestinian peace initiative, which underscores the comprehensive and evenhanded solution to the Middle East problem.

—The dialogue between the PLO and Israel must be conducted under UN auspices and with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general or his representative.

—The Palestinian-Israeli dialogue must be a prelude within the framework of preparations for the international conference to be held on the basis of resolutions of international legitimacy.

Hawatimah said: The reason that led the PLO to deliver its reply to the U.S. plan through the Egyptian Foreign Ministry was U.S. insistence on addressing the PLO via intermediaries, although an avenue for direct dialogue has been open between the two parties for 11 months. Hawatimah stated that the PLO has not received anything related to Baker's plan or its amendments directly from the U.S. side. He noted that this is intended to cast the PLO aside and give it a marginal role, while putting pressure on the Egyptians to exert pressure on the Palestinians to agree to the U.S. plan.

Hawatimah said that no U.S. plan will win approval if it ignores the Palestinian people's right to return, to self-determination, and to establishing an independent state; and he recalled the failure of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' plan under the pressure of the intifadah. Hawatimah voiced the belief that all attempts at dragging the PLO into accepting Baker's plan as a basis for the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue will fail "because in explicit terms that means retreating from the Palestinian peace initiative and reactivating the Camp David accord, which the PLO has already rejected."

### Commentary Examines PLO-U.S. 'War of Letters'

*JN2511080089 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1952 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In lengthy reports citing high-ranking sources, some Arabic newspapers talk about a war of letters between the PLO and the U.S. Administration. Perhaps this perfectly sound expression—the war of letters—concisely sums up the nature of Palestinian dealing with the U.S. Administration; the firm and decisive political dealing in terms of its vision, terms, and position, based on antagonism and dialogue between equal rivals with the U.S. Administration. In conclusion, this dialogue reflects the reality and strong adherence of the Palestinian position to its principled constants and conditions for a possible just solution. On the basis of these conditions the PLO continues to run the political conflict with the U.S. Administration and the management of the war through letters and direct and indirect dialogue. This management has so far been proved to have excellence and unique success. This is proved by the unchanged and clear Palestinian stand and its conditions and adherence to its constants. This stand has toppled and continues to topple, one after another, the various forms of U.S. political maneuvering to circumvent the principled Palestinian constants and to exclude the PLO from the equation and grounds of the conflict.

The Palestinian political success in engaging in the conflict of dialogue with the U.S. Administration has prompted some suspect voices in Washington to attempt to question the feasibility of the Palestinian political movement and its plan, and consequently, this movement's ability to participate in the political conflict properly. The same suspect voices, some of which are linked with U.S. intelligence circles, went on to attempt

to tarnish the Palestinian stand and its solidity, and to show it as avoiding direct confrontation with the U.S. stand. It has become known and understood through experience that the firmer the Palestinian position and the more cohesive the Palestinian ranks, the higher the suspect voices against the Palestinian rise to question the Palestinian stand and its effectiveness and ability to achieve success. Experience has also proved that the hotter the conflict with the U.S. Administration becomes, the louder those voices become in order to undermine the Palestinian stand. At any rate, the appearance of those voices under such circumstances indicates, or, rather, proves, the soundness of Palestinian political vision and inventive movement and management of the conflict.

The current war of letters between the PLO and the U.S. Administration fully proves this and completely clarifies not only the nature of the conflict with the U.S. Administration but also the Palestinian ability to achieve success. We will never be terrorized by the shows of U.S. intransigence and absolute bias toward the Israeli position. The U.S. intransigence and bias affirm the solidity of the Palestinian position. No intransigence can be shown before a flaccid stand. We deeply and firmly believe that the solidity of Palestinian ranks and position will always be the guarantee of achieving a great success in the battle of wills with the U.S. Administration. Victory is ours!

### Al-Surani Terms Response to Baker Plan 'Positive'

*NC2411145689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Jamal al-Surani, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has said the PLO's response to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposals is positive.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, he noted that this Palestinian reply marks the beginning of a long and arduous road, which starts with a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and ends with the convocation of an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

### Criticizes U.S. Mediation Effort

*JN2511182889 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 24 Nov 89 pp 1, 23*

[Excerpts] Cairo—PLO Executive Committee Member Jamal al-Surani has termed the PLO's response to Baker's plan positive. The PLO has called an Arab foreign ministers meeting to secure further support for the intifadah, he said. During a brief visit to Cairo, we asked him: [passage omitted]

[AL-QABAS] Do you think the United States has been successful in the role of broker in the Arab-Israeli conflict?

[Al-Surani] No. To date, the United States has failed to adopt a neutral posture on the conflict, as one would expect from a go-between working to help the parties arrive at a peace settlement. Evidently, the Americans are being totally biased in favour of the Israelis—so much so that it recently used its veto prerogative to cover up Israel's daily crimes agaginst our people. We hope the U.S. conscience will awaken and treat the Palestinian people on the same footing as other peoples. We are not asking for more than what the international community has granted us—our right to self-determination and independent statehood.

[AL-QABAS] What are the points at issue between the Palestinian and American positions on a settlement?

[Al-Surani] The differences run very deep. The United States is supplying Israel with all manner of political, economic, and media support. It also supports Israel's settlement drive and the demolition of Palestinian homes and it is pressing for an exodus of Soviet Jews. The United States also promotes strategic cooperation with Israel and provides it with nuclear reactors and atom bombs. On the other hand, for the United States, the security of the Arab states counts for nothing.

[AL-QABAS] The Palestinian-American dialogue is now several months old. What results has it produced? Has it made any dent in the American bias toward Israel?

[Al-Surani] So far, it has failed to deliver the hoped-for results. We hope it will develop and produce positive results. We are therefore sticking to the dialogue, through which we hope to arrive at some understanding. We see in the dialogue itself a positive thing; the United States is now talking to an organization that it once viewed as a terrorist group.

[AL-QABAS] How do you see the future horizons of the intifadah as it is about to complete its 2d year?

[Al-Surani] The intifadah will not halt, but will mount both intensively and extensively. Only when all Israeli occupation troops have left Palestinian territory and the independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital is assured will the intifadah halt.

### U.S. Response to PLO 'Not Satisfactory'

*JN2711131689 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Member Jamal al-Surani stated in Cairo today that the U.S. response to the PLO's questions on U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposals is not satisfactory. He noted that the pivotal problem in the ongoing consultations between the U.S. Administration and the PLO through Egypt is the representative nature of the PLO.

Al-Surani added that the United States does not want to recognize the PLO's right to form the Palestinian delegation that will participate in the proposed Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. He added: Washington wants a Palestinian delegation, not a PLO delegation. In other words, the American concept with regard to the Palestinian delegation is as follows: The PLO gives names to

Egypt, Egypt gives the names to America, and Israel vetoes the names. Consequently, Shamir negotiates Shamir.

The Palestinian official believes that the right of the PLO to choose the Palestinian delegation, that is, its representatives in the dialogue, stems from the right to self-determination, because the PLO is the representative of the Palestinian people. And this is the minimum that the Palestinians can accept.

Asked if whether Egypt has communicated the Palestinian response to the Baker proposals to the U.S. Administration, al-Surani said: Baker knows that Egypt is not a substitute for the PLO. However, he does not want to (?announce) the PLO's response, although he is aware of its stand, because the United States adopts the Israeli stand.

The Palestinian official affirmed that there is a ceiling that can be bypassed neither by the PLO nor by Egypt—namely, the recent Casablanca summit resolutions that adopt the Palestinian peace initiative.

## PLO Response to U.S. Unchanged

*LD2611111489 Kuwait KUNA in English 0814 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 26 (KUNA)—The U.S. Administration has recently sought Soviet Union's assistance in convincing the Palestine Liberation Organization to accept the five points of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's Mideast plan, it was revealed here Sunday.

An unidentified Palestinian source, described as a Palestinian leader, said that the appeal came during a meeting between Baker and a Soviet Foreign Ministry official recently.

The source, who was speaking to AL-WATAN newspaper by telephone from Tunisia, disclosed that Moscow refused the American demands and replied to Washington by saying that "Moscow supports the participation of the PLO in the talks and you (Washington) are not applying enough pressure on Tel Aviv."

Palestinian leaders including President Yasir 'Arafat are attending an urgent meeting to be held this week in Tunis for the Arab League Ministerial Council to discuss the Baker's plan and Israel's position toward it.

The PLO refused to change the content of a reply letter to the United States that should be delivered through Egypt today. 'Arafat received a request to change the wording of a paragraph in the letter but said the letter must be delivered today and no changes are going to be considered.

## Fatah's Salah Khalaf Interviewed

*PM2211155889 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 16 Nov 89 p 5*

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, also identified by his nom de guerre Abu-Iyad, by Muhammad Mahjub; place, date unspecified]

[Text] [Mahjub] Have new members been appointed to the PLO [as published] Central Committee?

[Khalaf] No new members have been appointed so far, and we have postponed this until the next meeting, scheduled for the 20th of this month.

[Mahjub] Some press reports hinted at the formation of a Palestinian delegation to hold a dialogue with the United States and Israel. What truth is there in this?

[Khalaf] It is untrue. No delegation has been formed. Hitherto, the foundations on which basis such a meeting would be held have still not been agreed. So these reports are incorrect.

[Mahjub] Have some states been late in fulfilling their commitments to the PLO under the Algiers summit resolutions?

[Khalaf] This is in fac a thorny and painful subject, and I do not want to name the states which are not paying, but I would like to thank the Arab states which fulfill their commitments to the PLO, foremost among which are the kingdom, Iraq, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates.

We have always been accustomed to the kingdom's fulfillment of its commitments—something which Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, may God protect him, is always anxious to maintain

[Mahjub] And what is the effect of this on the Palestinians' legitimate struggle?

[Khalaf] For example, Bayt Sahur has been under Zionist siege for over a month and the Israelis have left no furniture, or even children's toys, in the houses. These losses alone total over $6 million, so imagine the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the aggression taking place there. We Arabs have nothing other than this intifadah [uprising] in our hands. Through it we reactivate political action. So if, God forbid, the intifadah suffers a setback, I do not know what our position as Arabs will be. This is why I believe that every penny spent in support of this people inside is a nationalist, Islamic, and pan-Arab duty.

[Mahjub] Has the PLO any investments to cover the shortfall?

[Khalaf] We are now drawing on our reserves. We have no investments. Some believe we have billion of dollars, but we are poor, and we still thank God. We have nothing other than the commitments fulfilled by some

Arab states, otherwise the PLO would have been exposed long ago. Enemies always try to portray the PLO as possessing billions. Anyhow, we always turn to the committed Arab states and to our Arab and Muslim people to provide support and aid to the mujahidin.

[Mahjub] What stage has the Palestinian intifadah reached in the occupied territories?

[Khalaf] If we look at the civil disobedience taking place in and around Bayt Sahur, what is happening in Gaza, the recent strike, and the 5-day strike last month, we will see in these events signs of a new phase in the intifadah. But regrettably the important phase—that is, civil disobedience—requires that people be provided with the means to help them survive. This, because there are over 180,000 workers working in the occupied territories. So if we pay them some $500 a month, we cannot ask them to stage full disobedience. These funds are not a luxury; they are for the struggle.

[Mahjub] After Israel prevented Western media services from carrying out their activities in the occupied territories the intifadah appeared to the world public to be weakening or about to end. What is your view?

[Khalaf] Israeli reports prove that the intifadah is continuing—and strongly. We have heeded the foreign delegations that go there and hold press conferences. They all testify that the occupied territories are still in turmoil. But the Western media have deliberately started ignoring the fact that the intifadah is still raging.

[Mahjub] Can we attribute this to the lack of information?

[Khalaf] It is probably because of the lack of information, but although only the names and numbers of martyrs are mentioned, there are daily crushing battles between the occupation and our people in the occupied territories. We are doing our utmost to send sufficient information about the intifadah (without pictures, because there are not any). I assure you and the Arab and Islamic world and the world as a whole that the intifadah is continuing and that our enemies know the extent of its impact on them.

[Mahjub] How would you assess your relations with Syria? Are the there still any black clouds over these relations?

[Khalaf] We are working on the basis of our dispersing these clouds and meeting soon, God willing.

[Mahjub] Are any visits expected?

[Khalaf] We hope this will happen soon... and contacts between us are direct.

[Mahjub] Will Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] visit Syria?

[Khalaf] A Palestinian delegation will visit Syria shortly, then Abu-'Ammar will visit Syria.

[Mahjub] When do you expect the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue to be upgraded?

[Khalaf] We hope that the present dialogue will not end, and we still have not reached an advanced stage.

[Mahjub] What is the true situation regarding Palestine's joining the the Arab Cooperation Council?

[Khalaf] No, it has not joined, nor has it asked to join. We support all these Arab groupings, but we are not part of one grouping... we maintain good relations with all Arab groupings, thank God.

[Mahjub] Do you not believe that the increase in the Central Committee members increases the PLO's burdens?

[Khalaf] On the contrary, there are many burdens, which require many people to cooperate in dealing with them.

[Mahjub] How would you describe the Lebanese parliamentarians' meetings at Al-Ta'if, and what was the result of those meetings?

[Khalaf] I believe that the al-Ta'if meetings represented a historic opportunity for the Lebanese people, and unless they seize it there will be nothing but partitioning. This is the great danger. On that basis, I believe that all parties rise to the al-Ta'if resolutions and work to implement them, otherwise, as I said, the alternative is the continuation of the civil war and more deaths, woundings, martyrdoms, and bloodshed in Lebanon. So all parties must ensure that these resolutions succeed and are applied in practice. This is our firm and principled position.

[Mahjub] How would you assess the role of the high Arab tripartite committee entrusted with resolving the Lebanese problem?

[Khalaf] Without it, this great achievement would have been impossible. We therefore express our deep thanks to the committee, and I hope that it will continue to support those resolutions until they are actually implemented.

## Egypt

### Mubarak Receives Message From UAE President

*NC2211110489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)—Nasir al-Nuways, director general of the Abu Dhabi Development Fund, has stated that he had conveyed a message to President Husni Mubarak from United Arab Emirates [UAE] President Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan.

Following his meeting with President Mubarak today, al-Nuways said his current visit to Cairo is part of efforts to bolster bilateral relations between Egypt and the UAE.

### 'Abd al-Majid Receives Message From Shevardnadze

*NC2511135889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1053 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has received a message from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. The message deals with an exchange of views on developments in Lebanon and the Middle East. 'Abd-al-Majid received the message during a meeting today with Soviet Amabssador in Cairo Gennadiy Zhuravlev.

### Reporter Details Iraq-Egypt 'Crisis'

*JN2411105289 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Nov 89 p 7*

[By Nabil Zaki in Baghdad]

[Text] This is an annoying, perhaps unique, phenomenon in Arab relations. Two governments have good, firm, excellent ties and they constitute the two main foundations of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC]—the first practical project for some form of unity—yet considerable numbers of their citizens begin to experience a strange spirit of antagonism. The norm, so far, has been for governments to disagree, experience estrangement, or perhaps break off relations altogether; but links between peoples would continue to be strong and deep, unaffected by the positions of governments. The problems that have just affected relations between the Egyptian and Iraqi peoples are serious—that is, if we fail to diagnose the roots of the crisis. With full frankness, and without exaggeration on one hand or flattery on the other, we must admit that this crisis exists. It can be treated and all its consequences removed only through a calm and objective outlook, without any party showing regional fanaticism.

My visit to Iraq this time came after AL-AKHBAR had learned that Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister and foreign minister, would hold a news conference in his ministry to explain everything related to the problem of Egyptian workers in Iraq.

You cannot help but feel the heat and essence of the crisis as soon as you set foot inside the huge Iraqi Airways jumbo jet bound for Baghdad. The plane had just unloaded 400 passengers from Baghdad. Now it is going back to Baghdad with no more than 37 passengers on board, including more than 10 Egyptian journalists and the Iraqi ambassador to Cairo and a number of his companions. This is a new development in the world of travel between Egypt and Iraq! Last Friday [17 November] was our 2d day in Baghdad. I was going out of al-Mansurah Hotel in Hayfa Street, between al-Salihiyah and Karradat Maryam suburbs, immediately after the broadcast of the soccer match between Egypt and Algeria—to qualify for the World Cup finals—had ended. I saw scores of Egyptians working in Iraq marching, and I immediately decided to join them. There were a few Iraqi security men in civilian clothes trying to keep the march at a low profile and persuading the demonstrators to disperse peacefully.

But the march headed to Al-Rashid Bridge chanting slogans of support for Iraqi President Saddam Husayn as well as the slogans: "Egypt, Egypt, long live Egypt" and "Look, look what Egypt is doing."

The victory scored by the Egyptian soccer team on Friday was the crane that lifted the morale of all Egyptians in Iraq. They found in the result of the match a chance for them to emphasize that Egyptians cannot be badly treated by anyone. The victory was perhaps an opportunity to unleash "suppressed" feelings. Minor frictions took place at al-Rashid Bridge. Iraqi private cars and taxis were not reducing their speed as they usually do in such circumstances. Some participants in the march were also crossing the streets on the bridge, and at one stage, some cars almost ran over one of the demonstrators. Here, feelings heightened, and some demonstrators became angry and ordered cars coming from Hayfa Street toward al-Rashid Street over the bridge to return. Some drivers complied, and others did not.

But, the march that started from al-Sa'dun Street to the Liberty Square was much bigger and included around 800 demonstrators who were also chanting the same slogans. This demonstration was more organized and Iraqi police cars were driving behind the demonstration to protect it. Everything could have gone very well and naturally, and the Egyptian night of joy in Baghdad could have ended happily if it were not for the events in the al-Rashid Street.

At the beginning, when the demonstration entered the street, all Iraqi citizens and Egyptian workers received the demonstration with applause and chants and nothing happened to disturb security. The shops in the street (al-Rashid Street is the biggest commercial street in Baghdad) which were full of customers remained open, lit, and full of life.

Suddenly, the hidden hands—which were annoyed by President Saddam's saying that he who hates Egypt hates

Saddam first—moved. A land rover driven by an Iraqi appeared and drove into the march and ran over some of the demonstrators. The "joy" turned into a tragedy, people were furious, and things got out of control. A number of marchers turned over some cars, and others went to smash windows of some shops in al-Rashid Street.

The land rover was defying the march and the Iraqi policemen and traffic wardens. Strangely—in response to my questions—everyone said they failed to take the number of the attacking car.

Security reinforcements arrived few minutes later. They began to shoot into the air and then used force to disperse the demonstrators. At the same time, and despite the fact that security forces began to block roads and ban the entry of vehicles and pedestrians, groups of Iraqi citizens carrying clubs began to chase individual Egyptians. And, as darkness descended, al-Wathbah Square, al-Kifah Street, and al-Nahr Street became fields of confrontation. A number of Egyptians were arrested.

After I returned on foot to the hotel from the "battle" field, all the Egyptians working in the hotel surrounded me to tell me about what happened. One of them received a telephone call from a friend outside the hotel to warn him against returning to his residence after he finishes work at night. That worker lives in the al-Nahr Street.

A Moroccan waitress left her work and rushed toward me to tell me that she had seen the maltreatment of Egyptians and that the Egyptian press must write about it.

The following day (last Saturday) Tariq 'Aziz was scheduled to give his news conference and we went to the Iraqi Foreign Ministry. After 2 hours of waiting, Tariq 'Aziz arrived and began his news conference by announcing that his conference would deal with the outcome of the tour by Jan Eliasson, the envoy of the UN secretary general, who is mediating between Iraq and Iran.

Apparently, he noticed the astonishment in the eyes of the Egyptian journalists who were present among scores of journalists from all over the world. The Iraqi official made up for this and said that, after finishing with this subject, he would answer all questions related to it, and when there were no more questions, he would give us the opportunity to ask him any question on other issues.

We waited until the talk and questions and answers regarding the Iraq-Iran conflict ended.

Colleague 'Abd-al-Salam Mubarak asked him about the problem of Egyptian prisoners of war in Iran, about their number, and whether the Iraqi Government would consider them an integral part of the overall POW's issue, or whether Egypt should make its own contacts with the International Red Cross.

Tariq 'Aziz replied that the Iranian side had not supplied figures showing the number of brother Egyptian POW's. Indeed, he said, Iran failed to supply figures showing number of Iraqi POW's as it did not register them all. He said that according to his own information, the Red Cross itself does not know the number because the Iranian side was not honest in the figures it provided. Tariq 'Aziz added: "We bear the responsibility regarding our Egyptian POW's; it is also the responsibility of the Red Cross, and the Egyptian POW's must be freed like all other POW's."

The talk and questions and answers about the Iraq-Iran issue ended, and time for asking questions on "other issues" came.

The colleagues from the other national newspapers and party newspapers had agreed that the writer of this article would pose the questions about the problem of Egyptian workers in Iraq.

I addressed Tariq 'Aziz, noting that he is an old expert in Iraqi-Egyptian affairs and that we were expecting him to explain and analyze the causes and roots of the problems that had arisen in the relations between the two peoples. I asked whether steps had been taken to resolve current problems, including the rights of Egyptian workers and the question of cash transfers. I asked whether there was a relationship between the visit to Cairo by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, and practical solutions to these problems. I then moved to the incidents of the night before and explained that the Egyptian workers took to the streets to express their joy over the victory in the soccer match and that the march was sabotaged and the Egyptians were attacked. I said this caused regrettable incidents and resulted in deaths and injuries. I said we wanted to know the exact number of victims. Tariq 'Aziz kept listening until I finished and then said he had intended to talk about the question of Egyptians in Iraq but the affair had been left to Taha Yasin Ramadan, who would explain everything in Cairo.

Here, colleague Egyptian journalist "May," who works for a Cairo English-language magazine, burst out and told Tariq 'Aziz that the Egyptians are subjected to attacks in Iraq. She said she wanted to know whether the Iraqi Government intended to pay compensation to the families of Egyptian victims and whether the attackers would be tried and punished. Tariq 'Aziz refused to answer. AL-MUSAWWAR correspondent Majdi al-Daqqaq tried to get Tariq 'Aziz to speak, but he received the same answer. At the end of the news conference I told Tariq 'Aziz: "The reason why my Egyptian colleagues and I are here is that the Iraqi Embassy in Cairo told us you would talk about the problem of Egyptians in Iraq. We came, but you do not want to talk." He again referred to Taha Yasin Ramadan. I proposed that he hold a special meeting with the Egyptian journalists in the afternoon, but he apologized due to previously arranged commitments. I proposed that the meeting take place the following day and said we were ready to postpone our departure for several days so that the meeting could take place. But Tariq 'Aziz once again referred the whole issue to Taha Yasin Ramadan.

## AL-AHRAM on Iraqi Relations

*JN2311204189 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Nov 89 pp 1, 3*

["Calmly" column by AL-AHRAM Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi': "A Stand With the Iraqi Brother"]

[Text] We must admit there are some dark clouds in the sky of Egyptian-Iraqi relations in the wake of what recently happened to Egyptians in Iraq. We also must admit that dispelling these clouds cannot be achieved only through emotional statements or through attempts to cover these clouds or belittle their impact, because they have touched the conscience of the people. And what hurts the people cannot be dealt with through rhetorical statements, but rather by pausing over the situation, examining it, and facing it.

It is correct to say there is no problem between the political leadership in Cairo and Baghdad, and that the relationship between Presidents Husni Mubarak and Saddam Husayn is governed by joint understanding of the common issues and ways to resolve them. However, this does not reduce the seriousness of the problem; it might complicate it because it is a problem between the two peoples, not between the two leaderships or governments.

In light of this important fact, I want to deal with this issue within the framework of a number of basic principles:

1. Safeguarding and intensifying the relationship between Egypt and Iraq is in Egypt's national interest inasmuch as it is in Iraq's national interest and in the pan-Arab interest in Arab security in general. From the forties to this day, history unequivocally affirms this Arab strategic fact, beginning with the confrontation of the Israeli aggression on the heart of the Arab world, and ending with the confrontation of Iranian aggression on the eastern flank of the Arab world.

2. Any relationship with such impact, size, and depth can be prey to some real, imaginary, or fabricated problems. This is the nature of international relations all over the world. The important thing always is to distinguish between the real problems and the imaginary and fabricated problems, as well as to tackle the real problems and contain the fabricated ones. And this is the joint responsibility of the two countries, two leaderships, and two peoples on an equal footing; it is not the responsibility of one country, one leadership, or one people.

3. Presenting these issues and problems does not at all mean we are placing Cairo in confrontation with Baghdad or vice versa. This only means we are searching for common ground to solve the problems from an angle that places the higher pan-Arab interests above all considerations.

4. Cairo and Baghdad are two main pillars of the large Arab community. Together with Jordan and Yemen, they form a regional grouping that is supposed to be an example to be followed in Arab relations—a grouping that is supposed to be the backbone of the common Arab action. We hope this grouping will rise to the level of the international changes now taking place in the world.

5. The Egyptians, like the Iraqis, are human after all, and not angels. Human beings always are expected to make mistakes. If there are mistakes, they most probably are not committed by only one side. They necessarily are committed by the two sides. The most important thing is we always must agree on mechanisms of joint action through which mistakes and those responsible for these mistakes can be identified and the causes of these mistakes diagnosed before they become intractable. Treatment always must be carried out jointly and realistically. Thus, one of the two parties, whether through its media, government, or popular institutions, should not place the entire blame on the other.

In this respect, I am not embarrassed as an Egyptian Arab who is extremely concerned over Egyptian-Iraqi relations to say there also are mistakes on the part of the Egyptians. We have to check them and deal with them. But what about Iraqi mistakes? Can we check them and pinpoint the officials responsible for them to prevent their recurrence, particularly when the two countries' leaders are eager to safeguard the unique relations existing between the two people? President Mubarak repeatedly emphasized the pan-Arab aspect of the Egyptian people's solidarity with the Iraqi people in their struggle against aggression and for construction from this premise. Also, President Saddam Husayn publicly received representatives of the Egyptian workers in Iraq and announced a covenant of utmost political significance when he said he views any aggression against any Egyptian in Iraq as an aggression against him personally and against the entire Iraqi people.

In light of all these considerations, we are duty bound to discuss what the Egyptians in Iraq have experienced to clearly say here actually are reprehensible manifestations that took place, and which we cannot gloss over or ignore because they actually took place and their consequences continue to surface.

First of all, there is the indisputable fact that transcends the two parties' will. This fact is that following the termination of the fighting, a large number of Iraqi workers returned from the front to find their positions on the market occupied by Egyptians. They wanted to return to their positions. No one can contest their right to do this. Every national is more entitled to work in his country than any other person. But the problem is these positions are occupied by toiling Egyptians who filled the vacuum on the Iraqi labor market throughout the years of the war and who experienced the burdens and dangers of this war. Yardsticks should have been formulated to carry out this inevitable replacement operation so these toiling Egyptian workers, who have accepted unattractive wages and suffered from the restrictions of a war economy and the limitations imposed on the transfer of remittances, would not be harmed. It would have been

more suitable had they had time to arrange their affairs and appropriate compensations in accordance with Arab and international labor laws

It is inconceivable that 2 million Egyptians who have given of their sweat and blood over 8 years in Iraq should be expected to withdraw at once without compensation simply because they have to give way to returnees from the battle front. The departure should be haphazard, but be phased, as has happened in comparable circumstances elsewhere in the world. This must be the main reason why mistakes were made and Egyptians in Iraq subjected to regrettable incidents.

Furthermore, Iraq had given access to Arab citizens, including the Egyptians, without requiring a visa or an employment contract, with the result that Egyptian labor—skilled and unskilled—haphazardly flocked to Iraq to benefit from an open invitation. The Egyptians are to be blamed: The Manpower Ministry should have coordinated with its Iraqi counterpart on employment prospects and the absorptive capacity of the Iraqi market. There also might have been coordination on work and tourist visas to Iraq. Such an arrangement would not have been a novel idea. Citizens of Europe have mutual access to EC nations without a visa, but their labor exchange is subject to controls. In my opinion, regulation of Egyptian labor travel would not have compromised the freedom of movement enshrined in the Egyptian Constitution. After all, this would have been to safeguard the interests of Egyptian labor, as well as those of the receiving markets.

Another quite obvious fact is each nation, more so in times of security and social crises, spawns individuals who trample values, violate laws and seek illegally to get rich. These, however, are individual cases whose conduct cannot be blamed on an entire nation any more than the whole people of Iraq can be held accountable for the irregularities of a few. The full severity of the law rightly could have been applied against those Egyptians who committed punishable offenses in Iraq. However, legal procedures should have been followed, including trials in proper courts of law. But for some irresponsible Iraqi citizens to take the law into their own hands is something we condemn and reject. We call on the Iraqi authorities to find and punish those persons in the interest of solid relations between the two peoples.

It is worthwhile that together with our Iraqi brothers we see the merits of the majority of Egyptian workers, as well as the demerits of a minority. We should not fail to see the bright side represented by tens of thousands of Egyptians who volunteered to fight side by side with the Iraqis in their heroic defense of the eastern gate of the Arab nation, when for 8 years Egyptian and Iraqi blood mingled and hundreds of Egyptians fell martyrs both at the battlefront and in the rear lines. Not that this was the only form of Egyptian support for Iraq in battle; there exist numerous shining examples of Egyptian-Iraqi cooperation in various military and civilian fields. It behooves us to keep this in mind, lest minor incidents rob it of its larger meanings.

We are aware Iraq's victory after 8 years of ferocious war and major sacrifices took a heavy toll on the Iraqi economy and resources. We are equally aware that, consequently, Iraq is carrying the heavy burden of reconstruction and development resulting in a financial squeeze. All this is understandable and acceptable. But rather than have the dues of Egyptian workers suffer as a result, the matter might have been dealt with bilaterally to assure the rights of these workers, whose livelihood and rewards of their sweat were at stake. It was not appropriate they were confronted by abrupt measures that made life for them virtually impossible and denied them guarantees their arrears eventually would be settled, or at any rate, paid in installments.

It was this side that brought things so to a head in relations between the two peoples that it looked as though the Iraqis were being collectively hostile to the Egyptians and seeking their repatriation, having served the purpose of their employment now the war was over and soldiers were back home from the front. This may not be an exact picture of the situation, but this is the image that recently presented itself and made it possible for those politically interested in souring Iraqi-Egyptian relations to attempt fishing in troubled waters— hence the importance of Iraq's initative to send the country's first deputy prime minister, Taha Yasin Ramadan, to Egypt to explain his country's position to Egypt's political leaders and public opinion. Without a doubt, this should help contain the crisis and soften the shock on public opinion in Egypt.

Without a doubt, building bridges between the two countries, quick action to contain problems, and mutual candor should be enough to come to grips with problems and avert their accumulation, as well as to dispel the black clouds that have cast a shadow over the existing strong bilateral relations.

### Ramadan on New Facilities for Egyptian Workers

*NC2311182589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (MENA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, told a MENA correspondent here today the Iraqi leadership has decided to take several new measures to remedy all problems that recently have surfaced regarding conditions for Egyptians working in Iraq. The purpose of these measures, he added, is to provide better conditions for the brother Egyptian workers who are in Iraq, their second homeland.

Ramadan added that among these measures is the decision to issue travelers checks to university and higher institute professors and physicians who have work contracts in Iraq so they can visit Egypt with the full amount due them. Ramadan said all other Egyptians will be

allowed U.S. $100 in travelers checks upon their return to Egypt as part of the amounts owed them.

Ramadan added that, in addition, any Egyptian who has an Iraqi wife and one or more children will be allowed, when he returns to Egypt for good, to take with him furniture and household effects worth up to 500 Iraqi dinars. Furthermore, the wife's travel ticket, as well as that of the husband, will be paid in Iraqi dinars, and not in foreign currency, as it was before.

These measures, the Iraqi official noted, complement the decisions made 2 days after the meeting between President Saddam Husayn and a group of Egyptians working in Iraq. The measures sincerely and practicallly attest to the depth of relations between the people of the two fraternal countries and reflect the serious and real attention that President Saddam Husayn is giving to his brothers of Arab Egypt. As the president has said on more than one occasion, there is no discrimination between them and the sons of Iraq.

It is worth noting that during their recent meeting with President Saddam Husayn, some of the Egyptians working in Iraq requested travelers checks be given to university professors when they visit Egypt. They also requested the wife's airline ticket, like the husband's, be payable in Iraqi dinars, instead of foreign currency, as is now the case.

### Iraqi Transport Minister Al-Zubaydi Arrives

*NC2211090289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)—Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council and minister of transport and communications, arrived in Cairo from Baghdad this morning on a several-day visit.

The Iraqi official stated he will attend during his visit the general assembly meeting of the al-Jisr al-'Arabi company, a joint venture among Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq [passage indistinct]. He added he also will hold talks with Eng Sulayman Mutawwali, Egyptian minister of transport and communications, and other senior officials on bolstering bilateral cooperation. [passage omitted]

### Cypriot President Holds News Conference

*NC2311050489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)—Cypriot President Yeoryios Vasiliou has invited President Husni Mubarak to visit Cyprus. The president has accepted the invitation, and the date is to be determined later through official channels.

This was announced by the Cypriot president at a news conference in the presidential palace in al-Qubbah today before his departure from Cairo.

At the beginning of the news conference, President Vasiliou made a statement in which he expressed his gratitude for the hospitality and the warm welcome he was accorded in Egypt.

The Cypriot president praised the achievements of Egypt's infrastructure, particularly in industry, agriculture, and tourism, which he witnessed during his tour of installations of the Egyptian production and services sector.

The Cypriot president praised the enormous efforts being made by Egypt and President Mubarak to consolidate world peace and security. He described President Mubarak as "a wise politician capable of resolving the issues of the region."

In this regard, President Vasiliou referred to President Mubarak's efforts to resolve the Senegalese-Mauritanian dispute, give momentum to the Palestinian cause, and establish a just and permanent peace in the entire region.

Responding to a question on military cooperation between Egypt and Cyprus, the Cypriot president said he greatly admired the progress achieved in military production in Egypt, which he saw during a visit to a war production factory. He added that Egypt is highly capable of producing military materiel, from small rifles to heavy equipment. He remarked that this capability should be a source of pride.

Though I am not an expert in the military field, I will instruct our relevant ministries to study prospects for cooperation in that field, he said.

The Cypriot president responded to a question from a MENA correspondent on the prospects for cooperation between Egypt and Cyprus in fighting terrorism and narcotics trafficking in the Middle East, in view of the two countries' geographic locations. President Vasiliou said: Cyprus has repeatedly been used as a transit station for narcotics in the Middle East. However, the Cypriot Government has taken very strict measures in this field. On the question of Cyprus being used as a base for terrorism, he said that Cyprus neither accepts nor tolerates being used for such activities. Hence, we seek to achieve progress in fighting such activities through cooperation with the states of the region. The scope for such cooperation is wide, he said, adding: I would like to reiterate that our stand is clear and no one wants Cyrpus to be the scene of such acts.

President Vasiliou was asked whether any amendments to the 1984 trade agreement between Egypt and Cyprus had been made to facilitate expanded trade. Vasiliou replied: In fact, we did not sign any specific agreements during this visit. However, we seek to keep cooperation outside official agreements to spare it the complications of bureaucracy. Furthermore, he added, commercial cooperation will be undertaken by businessmen, the public and private sectors, and the various ministries, each in its own specialized field. However, he added, if

the need for an agreement in any relevant field arises, the two sides will sign such an agreement.

Touching on cooperation in the field of tourism, the Cypriot president noted that the two sides are working to strengthen this cooperation by encouraging travel between the two countries. He noted that significant progress has been made in this regard.

As for industrial cooperation, President Vasiliou expressed the hope that cooperation will be boosted in this field, with particular emphasis on textiles, through importing Egyptian cotton textiles and threads and encouraging joint ventures. He said the two sides will pave the way for such cooperation among businessmen from both sides, noting that Egyptian businessmen have been invited to visit Cyprus to study the prospects.

A MENA correspondent asked a question on recent reports by political observers that Cyprus is becoming an international surveillance center in the Middle East. The Cypriot president pointed out that his country's unique central geographical location makes it the meeting point for several international institutions. He added that Cyprus provides all possible facilities to these institutions, particularly the international media.

President Vasiliou also asserted that Cyprus is making significant efforts for the sake of world peace in general, and Middle East peace in particular, through the Nonaligned Movement.

Regarding the efforts being made to resolve the Cyprus issue, the Cypriot president said his country appreciates Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's statement of Egypt's willingness to help reach a solution. He said: We are at present waiting for the resumption of the dialogue between the representatives of the Turkish and Greek communities through the efforts of the UN secretary general. He praised the "good efforts" of the UN secretary general and his proposals which help bridge the gap between the two sides' views and which can be a good basis for formulating an agreement that would settle the Cyprus issue. He added that the Turkish side withdrew from this dialogue at a time when these ideas had been put forward for discussion, not for acceptance or rejection. He said that revival of the dialogue between the representatives of the Turkish and Greek communities in Cyprus will constitute progress toward solving the problem.

President Vasiliou went on to say: We want Cyprus to be unified and not divided into a Turkish sector and a Greek sector so that the country does not become another "South Africa." He added: We are committed to a unified Cyprus and are ready to move in that direction.

He referred here to current developments in the international arena, the EEC moves to unify its economic, political, and military policies, and the rapprochement between the two superpowers. He said: At a time when all this is taking place in the international arena, we on the small island of Cyprus are moving in the opposite direction. He stressed the need to put aside what happened in the past between the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus.

President Vasiliou stressed in his news conference that his country is buying weapons to strengthen its defense capabilities. He denied that Cyprus is mobilizing its troops and weapons in order to wage war against Turkey. Describing such reports as "rumors" and "just a joke," he asked: How can a small island such as Cyprus wage war against Turkey whose Armed Forces outnumber the total population of Cyprus? He added: We are looking for a solution that would achieve stability and peace in Cyprus and that would allow us to become a country where all people, regardless of their ethnic background, cooperate within the framework of unified Cyprus which has relations of friendship with its neighbors, either bilaterally or multilaterally. He stressed that this is in the interest of all parties.

Replying to a question on whether he accepts the presence of international forces to maintain peace or if he would prefer the demilitarization of Cyprus, President Vasiliou said: We are flexible and pragmatic. We would prefer, if we had a choice, not to have an army at all in Cyprus and to let the police force provide internal security. He added: We have no objection to a transitional period for a period of time so we can strengthen ourselves and provide the necessary security. We are ready to cooperate on this issue. He noted here that the Turkish side has agreed to the idea of disarmament.

Concluding his news conference, the Cypriot president expressed his pleasure with the results of his visit to Egypt and his talks with President Mubarak and said that these meetings will be repeated in the interests of the two friendly countries. He added that he will pay similar visits to other Arab countries in the future. He noted that he wanted his visit to Egypt to be the first of these because of Egypt's political, economic, and military importance in the region and the unique bilateral relations between the two countries. He stressed that Cyprus wants to have good relations with all its neighbors.

### Concludes Visit, Departs

*NC2211110689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)—Cypriot President Yeoryios Vasiliou, Mrs Vasiliou, and their accompanying delegation left Cairo this morning after a 3-day official visit to Egypt.

President and Mrs Mubarak were among those who bade farewell at Cairo airport. [passage omitted]

### Norwegian Official Arrives in Cairo

*NC2211061889 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] (Paul Babiknot), Norwegian minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Cairo last night for a 3-day visit.

The Norwegian minister stated that his visit to Egypt is part of a tour which also took him to Lebanon and Israel.

The Norwegian official commended the significant role being played by President Husni Mubarak and the Egyptian Foreign Ministry at the international level to resolve the Middle East problem. He added that he will meet with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Ambassador Yusuf Shararah, assistant foreign minister; and Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the president's office for political affairs.

### Ends Visit, Departs

*NC2311135389 Cairo MENA in English 1109 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, Nov 23 (MENA)—The Norwegian deputy foreign minister [title as received] left here this morning for home winding up a two-day visit to Egypt within the context of a tour of the Middle East to get acquainted with conditions in the area.

The Norwegian official has met with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid and with First Foreign Undersecretary and Director of the President's Office for Political Affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz.

## Kuwaiti Defense Minister Arrives on 4-Day Visit

*NC2511142889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir arrived in Cairo this afternoon at the head of a large delegation on a 4-day visit to Egypt.

The Kuwaiti guest stated on arrival that he feels very happy with this visit. He added that his meetings with the brothers in fraternal Egypt will be an opportunity for consultations and the exchange of views on fraternal relations in the military field and for developing and strengthening these relations to the two fraternal peoples' mutual benefit.

General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defense and war production and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, who was on hand to receive the Kuwaiti guest at the airport, said: We are very pleased that brother Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwait's defense minister, has accepted our invitation. His visit is a historic one in the two countries' relations as it is the first by the Kuwaiti defense minister.

Gen Abu-Talib added that his talks with the Kuwaiti guest will boost bilateral relations in general and relations between the two countries' armed forces in particular and military cooperation in all fields, such as equipment, weapons, and training. [passage omitted]

## Guinean Transportation Minister Arrives for Visit

*NC2411061289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2253 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 23 Nov (MENA)—Facine Toure, Guinean minister of transportation and public works, arrived in Cairo tonight for a visit of several days.

The Guinean minister will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Transportation and Communications on ways to promote bilateral relations in the sphere of transportation.

Eng Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transportation, communications, and maritime transport, received Toure at the airport.

## Al-Baz Departs for Visit to Jordan 25 Nov

*NC2511094089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0811 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, left Cairo this morning for Amman on a visit to Jordan. During his visit, he will hold talks on the latest developments in the Arab arena and the results of the efforts Egypt is making to advance the peace process in the Middle East.

## Sidqi Meets Finnish Labor Minister Puhakka

*NC2611211489 Cairo MENA in English 2101 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, Nov 26 (MENA)—Premier Dr 'Atif Sidqi tonight discussed with Finnish Labour Minister Matti Puhakka, currently on a visit here, aspects of cooperation between Egypt and Finland in the sphere of manpower, in addition to means of boosting bilateral cooperation in the trade, economic and technical fields with ephasis on electrical power stations.

'Asim 'Abd-al-Haq, minister of manpower, and the Finnish ambassador here attended the meeting.

## Interior Minister Returns From Gulf Tour

*NC2211182689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 20 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)—Interior Minister Zaki Badr and the accompanying delegation returned to Cairo this afternoon following a 2-week tour of the Gulf during which he visited Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the Sultanate of Oman, and the United Arab Emirates.

The minister said on arrival that he is carrying oral messages from the leaders and amirs of these countries in reply to President Husni Mubarak's messages to them. He praised the results of his tour and said that it was extremely fruitful. He said that the visits were within the framework of security exchange between Egypt and these

countries, particularly in the fields of crime prevention and the elimination of the Egyptian currency traders in those countries.

The visits were also within the framework of exchanging expertise between Egypt and these countries. He added that he discussed with the interior ministers of these countries ways to strengthen security relations between them and Egypt. [passage omitted]

### Foreign Ministry, PLO Answering Baker Plan

*NC2411150589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1427 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 24 Nov (MENA)—MENA has learned that intensive contacts among Egypt, the PLO, and the United States currently are taking place as part of the attempt to boost peace efforts in the Middle East, in light of existing proposals and the bid to bring about a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

The agency has learned the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and the PLO are continuing their coordination and consultations to prepare a final response to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposals.

MENA also has learned the PLO is emphasizing several basic principles, chiefly its right to form the Palestinian delegation and propose discussion on any issue during the dialogue.

### 'Abd-al-Majid on Consultations With PLO

*NC2511135489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that consultations and coordination between Egypt and the PLO are continuing. He said that the consultations fall within the framework of advancing the peace efforts in light of the current proposals and the proposed Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

### Sudanese Minister Gives Statement to Cairo Paper

*EA1611122689 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Nov 89*

[Text] The minister of culture and information, Sayyid 'Ali Shummu, announced that the constant violations of the cease-fire by Garang's movement and the attack on al-Kurmuk town came within the framework of Garang's avoidance of the recommendations and resolutions of the national dialogue conference agreed upon by the whole sections of the Sudanese people. This came in a press statement to AL-AHRAM Cairo newspaper. Sayyid Shummu pointed out that President Mubarak is still working to convince the other side to come for peace negotiations. He said the Sudanese delegations' tour abroad is aimed at enlightening the peoples of the world and their countries about the recommendations and resolutions of the national dialogue conference on peace issues.

### Official Denies Flights to Syria To Resume

*NC2611123189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1152 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA)—An official source in the Civil Aviation Authority said recent reports on reopening airspace between Egypt and Syria are absolutely groundless. In a statement today, the source stressed no meetings or contacts have taken place about this issue.

### Loan Agreement Signed With Abu Dhabi Fund

*JN2411123689 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Nov 89 p 6*

[Text] An economic agreement with Abu Dhabi Development Fund was signed yesterday. According to the agreement, the fund will provide Egypt with an easy-term loan of $75 million to help reclaim 155,000 feddans of agricultural lands in the regions of Nubariyah and al-Bustan. For Egypt, the agreement was signed by Dr Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation, and for the fund by Nasir al-Nuwayyis, chairman of the board of directors. The fund has financed four projects in Egypt, namely Talkha fertilizers, Abu Qir electricity station, and the promotion and expansion of the Suez Canal and the Marriot Hotel.

### Economic Cooperation Accord Signed With Denmark

*JN2311190389 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Nov 89 p 10*

[By Salwa Ghunaym]

[Text] An agreement for economic cooperation was signed yesterday between Egypt and Denmark to give Egypt 40 million [Egyptian] pounds as a nonrefundable grant to finance the building of two silos for mechanical storage of grain. One of the two silos will be built in Tanta with a capacity of 30,000 tons and the other will be built in Minya with a capacity of 25,000 tons. This project will save approximately $2.5 million annually that was wasted while storing grain. The agreement was signed by Supply Minister Dr Jalal Abu-al-Dhahab and Danish Ambassador in Cairo Yurgin Boyer [name as published]. The signing ceremony was attended by Dr Ahmad 'Abd-al-Ghaffar, chairman of the silos authority.

The minister said that Egypt has achieved 50 percent self-sufficiency in producing first-class wheat. He added that we will achieve complete self-sufficiency next year and will save approximately 170 million pounds annually spent on importation, once 6 mills start operating in various governorates with a daily capacity of 2,200 tons.

## Iran Allowed To Buy Egypt-Iran Bank Shares

*JN2511184689 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 24 Nov 89 p 1*

[By Jamal Shawqi]

[Text] A few days ago, the Egyptian Government permitted the Iranian authorities to buy all the shares floated in the market to increase the capital of the Egypt-Iran Bank. This is the first official dealing between Egypt and Iran since the severance of relations in 1979. Iran's capital in the bank is now 25 percent instead of 14.5 percent. During the era of the late Iranian shah, Iran's capital in the bank was 49 percent.

Responsible sources said that during the coming period, the Egyptian Government will hold contacts with the Iranians to discuss the future of joint Iranian investments in Egypt, which total approximately $2 billion. Deficits in investments and interest will be offset with Egyptian commodities and products.

Directly following these contacts, an Iranian delegation is scheduled to arrive in Cairo to hold negotiations with Egyptian economic officials.

A few weeks ago, the Egyptian Government postponed its agreement on sending an Egyptian economic delegation to Tehran until the discussion of the future of Iranian investments is completed.

## Paper Criticizes 'Contradictions' in U.S. Policy

*NC2211082789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)—AL-AHRAM has criticized the contradictions in U.S. policy on the Palestinian issue, particularly its stand on Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

According to the paper, the United States pursues a clear policy of denouncing Israeli practices, practices which go far beyond the measures required to establish stability. Such denunciations are stressed in statements by U.S officials and even by the mass media.

However, when it comes to discussing such practices at the United Nations in general, and the UN Security Council in particular, the United States categorically refuses to condemn Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

In its editorial today, the paper refers to a U.S veto of a draft resolution condemning Israeli practices in the Bayt Sahur township.

The paper concludes that the U.S decision to oppose the resolution is in line with one aspect of its ambiguous and bewildering policy, but clearly contradicts another aspect, where U.S. officials condemn Israel's practices in the occupied territories.

## First Installment of Workers' Pay Received

*NC2711090989 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0435 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH cites an announcement by 'Asim 'Abd-al-Haq, minister of manpower and training, that the state attaches special importance to the issue of Egyptian workers at home and abroad. 'Abd-al-Haq said Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi will chair a meeting tomorrow to discuss this issue. The ministers of foreign affairs, interior, insurance affairs, manpower, and emigration will attend the meeting. [passage omitted]

AL-AKHBAR cites a banking source in the Rafidain Bank as stating yesterday that the bank received an initial installment of the remittances of Egyptian workers in Iraq to the value of $10 million. The source added that this sum will be divided equally among the Rafidain Bank, the Bank of Alexandria, and the Arab African International Bank. The bank said it expects to receive another $10 million next week, in accordance with the agreement between the Egyptian and Iraqi governments to transfer $50 million of the Egyptian workers' remittances, in installments, to the bank. [passage omitted]

## Security Forces Interfere in Student Elections

*JN2111115089 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 19 Nov 89 p 2*

[By Majdi Hilmi]

[Text] The Universities of Cairo and 'Ayn Shams have witnessed demonstrations organized by students of all schools protesting the "massacre" by the security men and their interference in striking off the names of students who are affiliated with opposition groups from the students' elections nomination lists. Demonstrations broke out at the University of Cairo immediately after the lists of names were announced. The names which were erased have totaled 200 out of the 300 candidates in the various schools. The schools of medicine, dentistry, commerce, and arts have witnessed continuous demonstrations during the last few days. The "massacre" of the lists at the 'Ayn Shams University was uglier, and demonstrations were more widespread.

Students have issued a number of pamphlets carrying the titles "destroyers of liberty," "the farce continues," and "a conspiracy against students." The students of the university have also convened a number of general meetings which were attended by crowds of students. At the end of these meetings, a number of decisions were made, including appealing to the university's administration and teachers to intervene and stop the mockery, and sending cables of protest to the president of the Republic, the speakers of the people's and consultative councils, the prime minister, the education minister, and the Egyptian organization for human rights. In their

cables, they have demanded the return of all students banned on the basis of security reports, non-interference in the election process, giving free choice for students, and cancellation of the current students' electoral list. The cables have also condemned the blatant security interference in the universities' affairs.

The lists of the students of the schools of law, sciences, and education, suffered the "massacre" following the girls' college suspension of 2 students who are members of the students' union and unjustly prevented them from nomination. The college's administration has threatened to dismiss any students who support their colleagues' right to renomination. The college's security chief and the state's security police have prepared a list of students and nominated them in order for them to succeed by acclamation.

The Universities of the Suez Canal and al-Zaqaziq have also witnessed other massacres of the students' lists. Security interference has become a challenge to the students. The university guards have chased a number of students at Cairo University and assaulted them inside the campus. The guards at 'Ayn Shams University have also kidnapped a student named Ahmad Salah of the school of sciences. Moreover, they have beaten and assaulted him inside the office of the guards chief to force him to sign a confession that he has been circulating leaflets. The regrettable thing is that some of the faculties' deans and the universities' presidents have taken part in the mockery; they have also threatened students with dismissal. Some deans even assaulted students. Security forces tightened their siege of universities; police vehicles were seen besieging 'Ayn Shams University and the education faculty. Police officers and informers have also been dispersed all over Cairo University, the Suez Canal University, al-Zaqaziq University and its branch in Banha.

Students have affirmed that they will continue their peaceful demonstration and protest against the "massacres" to force the universities to respond to their demands. It is worth noting that the state security police has chosen the candidates for the ruling party in the universities' students elections.

### Further on Police Interference

*JN2111121889 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 19 Nov 89 p 2*

[By Sha'ban Abu-Dharr]

[Excerpts] The process of nomination for student union elections at Egyptian universities witnessed flagrant security interferences throughout the past week. Some of the faculties' deans and deputy deans took part in pressuring students nominated for election who are competing on lists with the candidates of the National [Democratic] Party [NDP]. The state security police arrested a number of students on charges of being affiliated with Islamic groups and of supporting opposition candidates. Among those arrested were students Muhammad Mustafa Ibrahim and Majid Tulbah from the faculty of engineering in Alexandria. The state security police summoned the students competing with the NDP candidates, and threatened to arrest them if they insist on nominating themselves. [passage omitted]

The students then demonstrated to protest the actions of the state security police and the schoolds' administrations.

In Alexandria, the central security forces and the special forces stormed the school of arts, besieged the student welfare building, and prevented students from submitting the electoral lists, except those that included the names of candidates nominated by the state security police. [passage omitted]

## Sudan

### Committee Urges Emergency Economic Measures

*EA1611133889 Khartoum SUNA in English 0933 GMT 16 Nov 89*

[Text] Khartoum 16 Nov (SUNA)—A report by a sub committee of the national conference on economic salvation yesterday painted a grim picture for the country's economy, saying that the gap between public revenues and spending is estimated now at 10 billion pounds, compared to seven billion pounds by the end of last June.

The committee on budgets, which was chaired by ex-finance Minister Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur, said in its report the total deficit in the country's balance of trade, including imports and development purchases, stood now at one billion Sudanese pounds.

The report, which was approved by a plenary committee of the conference's steering committee yesterday, has said that this deficit was reflected in the deterioration of the economy, to the extent that inflation in the country shot to 30 per cent or "three times this figure as estimated by some economists."

It also led to an increase of production costs, and deterioration of the competitiveness of the economy's exports, the report said, adding that external aid is constituting 30 per cent of spending.

The country's revenues failed to meet spending the wages and salaries of the government employees, and that needed to run the work in the country", the report read by Mansur noted, warning that "this is a grave situation." [sentence as received]

The report called for the adoption of emergency economic measures to amend the current budget, which was inherited by the deposed government to tackle the situation.

The committee proposed boosting taxes by giving special emphasis on sale taxes, and reconsidering financing of the regional government, which amounts to 2.4 billion pounds.

It further called for cutting down spending by reconsidering employment and subsidation.

In the sphere of external debt, the report recommended trading the debts with local investment, and urged to continue work to ease the country's debts burden.

## French, FRG Envoys Urged To Aid Peace Efforts

*EA1611201189 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 16 Nov 89*

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Nov (SUNA)—Martin Malwal, member of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council and the Political Committee, has again dismissed allegations spread by Garang's movement that the government resumed the war by attacking Kurmuk and Rumbek. When he met the French ambassador in Khartoum today, his excellency emphasized the government will continue to adopt a defensive posture until peace is realized. He said this cannot be achieved unless negotiations are held between the government and the movement. Col Martin acquainted the ambassador with the government's policy towards achieving peace and its keenness for it. He stressed that the resolutions and recommendations of the national peace conference were the choices of the Sudanese people.

Col Martin Malwal called upon the French ambassador to urge France in its capacity as chairman of the EEC to put pressure on Garang until he agrees to sit at the negotiating table. The ambassador promised to convey everything discussed to his government and to try to convince Garang's movement to sit at a negotiating table with the government. He also promised to convey the contents of the talks to all the EEC ambassadors accredited to Sudan and urge them to exert efforts to bring peace to the country.

Col Martin Malwal also acquainted the FRG ambassador to Sudan with the government's efforts to bring peace to the country, pointing out that all the allegations about the government resuming the war in the south were nothing but fabrications. He stressed the government was working seriously to achieve peace. He called on the ambassador to urge the German Government to try to persuade Garang to sit at a negotiating table. He also requested that the member of the German Parliament who attended the reconciliation between Somalia and Kenya and between Somalia and Ethiopia embark on a similar initiative to enable the government and Garang's movement to achieve peace. The ambassador pledged to deliver these requests to the government and the parliament. [passage indistinct].

## Cultural Minister Discusses Proposed Federation

*EA1811181289 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Mr 'Ali Muhammad Shummu, minister of culture and information, has confirmed to the Kuwaiti AL-QABAS that the revolutionary government is interested in finding honorable solutions to the problem of southern Sudan. Mr Shummu said the government of the National Salvation Revolution had submitted a peace initiative, and part of this submission was the federal alternative. That was a form of government previously demanded by the south. He added that if agreement was achieved on this federal system, continuing the war would become irrelevant. We hope to sit together to discuss this matter, he said.

In reply to a question about the demands of the dissident colonel, John Garang, the minister replied that all his conditions and also the battle front would become irrelevant if peace was achieved. Every region would have the right to legislate the laws it wanted.

On demands that Khartoum be the neutral capital in the federal system, Mr Shummu said: What was approved was the federal system. We did not discuss the issue of the capital. Details of the form of government will be studied, including [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

## SPLA Urges Government Soldiers To Defect

*EA2011205689 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 20 Nov 89*

[Text] The official spokesman of the [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] SPLA has said that SPLA cells inside Damazin have sent an urgent message to Radio SPLA to alert those whose arrest and court martial is under way or imminent. The following is the full text of a telegram from the chief of staff, Khartoum, ordering the disarmament, arrest and court martial of those mentioned in the telegram. It reads:

Top Secret number 140870/180. Date 14th of November 1989. From the chief of staff to Damazin Command - repeated to all of Khartoum commands, office of the state minister of defense, deputy chiefs of staff for operations and administration, all commands and corps of general headquarters branches. The text begins, and I quote:

The Sudanese society in ancient and modern history of Sudan is known for gallantry, sacrifice, and steadfastness in confronting the enemy armed or unarmed. What happened recently is an affront and a shame in the command of the Armed Forces, the soldier and the Sudanese nation.

We in the Armed Forces reflect those culprits with the shame on their faces. [as heard] It is surely they have no relation to the Sudanese soldier. They may be either rebels or collaborators. What happened in (Shali) will

witness immediate corrective measures to that effect, and we have taken the following measures:

All field allowances are stopped immediately. That is, operations allowances, standby allowances etc, from all the forces that withdrew from Damazin military area, for the forces which withdrew from Shali Yabus and Kurmuk and all these forces have to be disarmed and placed in separate prisons. Officers aside and other ranks alone awaiting field court martial. [sentence as heard]

Colonel Muhammad Ali al-Haji of the mobile support force, Dondoro, is to be arrested immediately, and court martialled, and court martial formed to try him—confirmed execution, end of quote.

The message we have just read is an order from the Khartoum chief of staff. This is a serious development. The junta has insulted and defamed the Sudanese soldiers, calling them rebels, collaborators, and all sorts of names, when these soldiers fought courageously in Surkum, Kurmuk, Shali and Yakus.

After all the sacrifices these officers and men have met, they now face disarmament, arrest, court martial, and possible execution by firing squad, or long imprisonment.

We appeal to these officers, NCO's, and men to defect, and join the SPLA before they get disarmed and arrested. We appeal to the forces in (Dondoro) to remain firm and continue to resist the illegal orders of the junta, to resist disarmament, to resist arrest, and to continue dialogue with the SPLA forces of the New Funj that are now around (Dondoro).

We appeal to the forces in Damazin to support and stand firmly in solidarity with the action already taken, and actions that will soon be taken by the troops in (Dondoro).

We appeal to patriotic and nationalists elements in the Sudanese Army, including officers, NCO's and men, to rally behind the stand of Col Muhammad Ali al-Haji and the forces in (Dondoro). We appeal to the internal forces of the new Sudan in the Army of the old Sudan to rally behind (Dondoro), to make (Dondoro) the focus of the forces of the new Sudan.

### Sentences Passed in Al-Hadi al-Mahdi Killing

*EA2011144489 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 18 Nov 89*

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Nov (SUNA)—The Khartoum High Court today passed sentences in the assassination case of the late Imam al-Hadi al-Mahdi—the uncle of former Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi—and two of his companions, who were assassinated in the area south of Blue Nile Province near the Ethiopian border.

The three were leaving the country, fleeing from the government during Al-Numayri's rule in 1970.

The court, in today's session presided by Justice Sayyid Didan, acquitted the first suspect in the case, the murderer of Al-Imam al-Hadi, military policeman Abeid Kambal. The court noted in its verdict the suspect defended himself.

The court convicted two suspects under Article 251, pertaining to deliberate murder. The two are: Ahmad Husayn ba Masika, who is an administrative officer, and Wadaah Husayn Ahmad. It also convicted another suspect under Article 251/84, ex-Armed Forces Officer Tirab al-Ghali, for inciting the killing of Al-Iman al-Hadi's two companions. The two were: Sayf al-Din al-Naji and Muhammad Ahmad Mustafa.

Prior to that, the court made a decision on the case of the accused J'afar al-Numayri, the former president, in view of his absence. Numayri faces a charge of inciting murder, according to evidence from some witnesses.

It should be noted the court case continued for approximately 4 years. It first opened after al-Sadiq al-Mahdi came to power in 1986 [as heard]. Sadiq al-Mahdi then brought the remains of his uncle [word indistinct] from Baw area, south of the Blue Nile, to Omdurman.

### Report Cites Husayn Pledge To Supply Arms

*PM2011121289 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 21 Nov 89 p 10*

[Unattributed report: "Al-Bashir Seeks Arms From Iraq"]

[Text] Arab diplomatic sources in Cairo have told AL-MAJALLAH that during his recent visit to Baghdad, [Sudanese National Salvation Revolution Command Council Chairman] Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir submitted to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn a list of types and quantities of arms needed to strengthen the Sudanese Army against the secessionist movement in the south. The list included armored vehicles, combat weapons, short-range missiles, and advanced helicopter bombers. According to the same sources, the Iraqi president promised to meet these needs.

Al-Bashir also raised the question of Sudan's joining the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC], but President Saddam Husayn told him that matter would have to be submitted to ACC leaders, and that Iraq could not make such a decision on its own.

The sources further said Egypt has postponed discussion of the al-Bashir government's request for arms.

### SPLA Condemns al-Bahsir's Ban on Relief

*EA2111172289 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] We now present SPLM/SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army] press release on relief dated 21st November 1989: The official spokesman of

the SPLM/SPLA today issued the following statement on relief, following 'Umar al-Bashir's ban on relief to southern Sudan.

1. Two days ago Brigadier 'Umar al-Bashir, head of the junta in Khartoum, declared that he will not allow Operation Lifeline Sudan and other relief activities to continue as long as there is no cease-fire in Sudan. This announcement ends more than 2 weeks of suspense when 'Umar al-Bashir suspended relief flights, barges and trains, pending what he called an investigation into the bombing of Yirol and Waat by his own military jet planes.

2. This act from the junta is a deliberate move to deny the population directly needed food and nonfood items, and is nothing short of using food as a weapon against the innocent population caught in the midst of a war started and perpetuated by Khartoum. The movement is opposed to using food as a weapon, and will condemn any move in that direction.

3. 'Umar al-Bashir knows more than anybody else that he is the one who violated his own cease-fire and then used his own planes to bomb relief centers such as Yirol and Waat. Thereafter he imposed a ban on relief movements into southern Sudan so that, according to the junta, it investigates the circumstances of the bombings. Now, rather than making public the findings of his so-called investigation, 'Umar al-Bashir turned around and stopped the relief work altogether. This is what he had wanted from the very beginning and had to look for lame excuses.

4. It is important to state that Operation Lifeline Sudan was agreed upon in the absence of a cease-fire. The UN, the SPLM/SPLA and the Sudan Government had agreed on corridors of tranquillity in March 1989 to reach [as heard] food and non-food items to the needy population in southern Sudan. The first cease-fire was on 1st May when Operation Lifeline Sudan was already well under way. It is true that cease-fire facilitated relief, but relief and cease-fire are independent. The needs are still great, and all concerned should work hard to see that they are met to avoid disaster.

5. And last: We would want to reiterate the SPLM/SPLA's position that despite 'Umar al-Bashir's closure of the corridors of tranquillity, we will continue to keep them open on our side, and we are committed to relief reaching those who need it on both sides of the conflict. We, therefore, appeal to operation Lifeline Sudan, the ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross] Norwegian People's Aid and other relief organizations to continue with their humanitarian work, which has saved many lives and is greatly appreciated by the Sudanese people.

## Official Hails Jimmy Carter's Peace Initiative

*EA2111083389 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Nov 89*

[Text] Colonel Martin Malwal, Revolution Command Council member and member of the Political Committee, has hailed efforts being made by the American Government to further peace in Sudan.

During a meeting today in his office at the People's Hall in Omdurman with the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum, he stressed the importance of the initiative by former American President Jimmy Carter to achieve peace in Sudan and said these endeavors should continue until the government and Garang's movement sit at the negotiating table.

Col Malwal dismissed during the meeting rumors carried by the world press about the government's resumption of the war. He assured the government did not start the war, but would continue to stand in defense until the desired peace was achieved.

## Oman

### Sultanate Condemns Mu'awwad Assassination

*JN2311101689 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Muscat, 23 Nov (WAKH)—The Sultanate of Oman denounced today the assassination of Lebanese President Rene Mu'awwad.

Muscat radio quoted the official Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying that Oman denounces and condemns this awful crime, which is an act against Lebanon's unity, legitimacy, and national reconciliation.

The spokesman said the Sultanate calls on all Lebanese to rally around their legitimate leadership to ensure Lebanon's unity and security.

### Muscat Radio Reports Condolences

*JN2311151589 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] The Sultanate of Oman has denounced the crime of assassinating Lebanese President Rene Mu'awwad. An official spokesman for the Foreign Ministry today said: The Sultanate has received with deep sorrow and regret the news of the assassination of late Lebanese President Rene Mu'awwad. The Sultanate denounces the assassination and condemns this abominable crime targetted at Lebanon's unity and legitimacy, as well as at foiling the national accord. Likewise, the Sultanate offers condolences and consolation to the family of the deceased and to the Lebanese people, and calls upon all of them to follow their legitimate leadership to guarantee Lebanon's unity and safety.

### Sultan Congratulates New Lebanese President

*JN2611151089 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id, may God protect him, has sent a cable of congratulations to His Excellency Ilyas al-Hirawi on his election as president of the Republic of Lebanon. Following is the text:

Your Excellency President Ilyas al-Hirawi, president of the Republic of Lebanon, Beirut:

We are pleased to congratulate you on your election as president of the sisterly Republic of Lebanon. We wish you success in achieving national reconciliation and fulfilling the fraternal Lebanese people's aspiration to extend the state's sovereignty and national unity all over Lebanon, and to spread security, stability, and peace throughout its territory.

We wish you and the Lebanese people prosperity and tranquillity. Please accept my warmest greetings.
[Signed] Your brother, Qabus Ibn-Sa'id

## PDRY

### President Scheduled To Meet With YAR Leader

*LD2111091189 Kuwait KUNA in English 0817 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 21 (KUNA)—The much-awaited meeting between presidents of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Haydar Abu Bakr Al-'Attas will take place in Aden later this month, high-level sources in Sanaa and Aden were quoted as saying to daily AL-WATAN Tuesday [21 November].

The sources said that the two leaders will announce an advanced step toward unity between their countries following the meeting. The two countries were one until 1967 because of a bloody civil war, which toppled the monarchist regime.

AL-WATAN learned from the sources that Sanaa proposed the completion of unity within a confedracy, while Aden suggested that a confedracy be the first phase toward unity, which was eventually agreed on by both Yemens.

A Presidential Council for a united Yemen is due to be established soon. The two presidents would chair this council by rotation. Ministries of both countries will gradually merge into federal ministries. The four key ministries will keep functioning as independent organs until comprehensive unity is accomplished.

The Democratic Yemen has recently conducted intensified studies and consultations within a comprehensive political reform program, while the Arab Yemen estabished a Shura (Consultative) Council and a People's Congress, in preparation for unity.

The sources estimate that all adminisitrative obstacles, which impede the flow of citizens between the two parts of Yemen will gradually melt away, as Yemenis began yesterday to cross borders using identification cards.

They commented that the fall of the Berlin Wall and opening borders between East and West Germany was incentive enough for the two Yemens to follow suit.

### YAR President To Visit 'Southern Part' 30 Nov

*EA2011210789 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Nov 89*

[Text] AL-THAWRAH newspaper has learned that the president of the northern part of the homeland, secretary general of the General People's Congress, Colonel Ali Abdullah Salih, will be paying a visit to the southern part (PDRY) on 30 November, on the occasion of the anniversary of the evacuation of the British colonialist forces from the southern part of the homeland, following a long struggle during which our people offered great sacrifices and martyrs.

This afternoon [18 November] Radio Sanaa broadcast that the visit would result in an important historic announcement, along the road to reunifying the Yemeni homeland, which was divided into two by hateful colonialism and the defunct regimes of the sultans and the imam. This is a further step toward unifying the two people.

### YSP Leaders Assess Unification Process

*EA2311083189 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] The Political Bureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee this evening held a joint meeting with the Central Committee's secretariat chaired by Brother Ali Salim al-Bid, the secretary general of the YSP Central Committee.

The participants studied the latest developments affecting efforts to unify the two parts of the homeland. They reviewed positive developments in this respect, stressing the need to promote unification efforts through increased energy and persistence, stressing that this is the great goal and noble cause our patriotic and respectable Yemen masses, north and south, are striving to achieve.

Unity is, and always has been, one of the great goals of the glorious revolutions of 26 September and 14 October. The participants in the meeting observed with great appreciation the ever-increasing official and popular interest by the two parts in achieving Yemeni unity. They also observed with appreciation the positive spirit of unity dominating the 11th session of the Supreme People's Council in the southern part at the beginning of November. This spirit also would dominate the forthcoming meeting of the consultative council in the northern part in the last 10 days of this month.

The participants noted the keen interest shown by the legislative bodies in the two parts, which demonstrates the aspirations of other Yemeni people for unity, seen as the destiny of the nation and the anchor of their hopes to build a happy and prosperous future. This is a future patriotic and respectable people are striving to make more democratic and just, as they strive to remove the inherited shortcomings as represented by the debris left by the defunct clerical, colonial, and imamate eras, which entrenched the division and contradistinction of the Yemeni people.

The participants in the joint meeting highly rated the positive fraternal atmosphere dominating relations between the leaderships of the two parts of the homeland. They stressed the adherence by the two parts to peaceful and democratic methods for bringing about Yemeni unity in conformity with the Yemeni revolution's aims and principles and the Yemeni people's civilized personal standards.

They also stressed that democracy constitutes the realistic means to achieve a unity which would be strong and deeply entrenched because it would be a unity of free citizens. Such citizens would be equal in terms of rights and obligations. Under a democratic and unified Yemen, they would enjoy equal opportunities, while the nation in which they would participate together with their patriotic and democratic forces in establishing unity would constitute a mighty bastion to defend and protect them.

The participants in the meeting stressed the need to meet the demand of the legislative bodies in the two parts to perfect a realistic provisional unity formula. This formula would unify common denominators and exclude points on which agreement has not been reached. Such a formula would create a joint official apparatus for the two leaderships, based on other popular apparatuses, to ensure participation by the Yemeni people, together with their patriotic forces and mass organizations, in unification during its transitional stage. The forces and organizations would then ensure the action continued within the frame work of the unified democratic Yemeni state. [passage omitted]

## Qatar

### Government Condemns Mu'awwad Assassination

*JN2311124889 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Doha, 23 Nov (WAKH)—The State of Qatar has condemned the heinous crime that killed Lebanese President Rene Mu'awwad and described the assassination as an attempt to assassinate the process of peace and reconciliation in Lebanon.

In a statement to QNA [QATARI NEWS AGENCY] today, a Foreign Ministry official source expressed the Qatari Government's deep regret and grief over the assassination of President Mu'awwad, who was legitimately elected by the Lebanese to lead the country along the road to peace and security after the bitter years of war.

The source described the assassination of the Lebanese president as one of the war's most negative blows against Lebanon and its hopes for peace. The source called on the Lebanese to display solidarity once again and to adhere to the goals of unity, security, and peace, for whose sake President Mu'awwad was killed.

The source expressed deep confidence that the Lebanese people are able to overcome this ordeal and continue the march of peace and full accord in Lebanon.

### Amir Receives Chadian Foreign Minister, Message

*JN1411190189 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 14 Nov 89*

[Text] Doha, Nov 14 (GNA)—H.H. [His Highness] the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from President of Chad Hissein Habre.

The message was delivered by Chad Foreign Minister Acheikh Ibn-Oumar during an audience with H.H. the amir here this morning.

The audience was attended by H.H. Heir Apparent and Defence Minister Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, the Foreign Minister Abdullah Khalifah al-'Atiyah and members of the delegation accompanying the Chadian minister.

The message dealt with means of promoting ties of cooperation and friendship between the state of Qatar and the Republic of Chad and the situation in Chad after reaching recently a peace accord there, the QATARI NEWS AGENCY said.

## Saudi Arabia

### Government Congratulates New Lebanese President

*LD2511101989 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expressed its congratulations to Lebanese President-elect, Ilyas al-Hirawi, while it voiced its absolute support for the confirmation of the Lebanese legitimacy.

This was put forward in a statement by an official source made last night to SPA, the text of which follows:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which received the news of the election of Mr Ilyas al-Hirawi as president of the Republic of Lebanon, is pleased to express to his excellency its best wishes and congratulations for success to complete the process of harmony, peace, and concord in Lebanon, and to achieve the most noble aim aspired for by the Lebanese people, which is preserving the unity, sovereignty, and independence of Lebanon.

While the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expresses its absolute support for the courageous step made by the Lebanese parliament to confirm the Lebanese legitimacy to pursue the process already initiated toward the national concord, it stresses that the speed which characterized taking this step was strong proof that Lebanon is always capable of overcoming its wounds, and defeating all the obstacles and difficulties in the way of its unity, security, and safety. It is also shining proof of the capacity of the Lebanese people, with all its groups and constitutional institutions, foremost among which is the parliament, to be at the level of responsibility in achieving the aspired concord, in consolidation of legitimacy, in protection of the future of Lebanon, and in preservation of its sovereignty and independence.

### Explosives Found on Saudi Airliner in Pakistan

*LD2411233989 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2255 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Jeddah, 24 Nov (SPA)—A responsible source at the Saudi Arabian Airlines [Saudia] this evening told SPA that Pakistani authorities have found a bomb on board Saudia flight 367 today, Friday, which was bound last night from Islamabad to Riyadh and Jeddah.

The source said: The Saudi airliner which took off from Islamabad airport at 1845 on Thursday evening was forced to land at Karachi airport at 2027 because of a call from the control tower at Islamabad airport following the receipt of a copy of a letter by security officials at Islamabad airport which said that there were explosives on the plane. Also, there was a terrorist on board to detonate the explosives, and there was a demand for $15 million in $500 bills to be placed somewhere in Islamabad.

The source pointed out that immediately after the plane landed at Karachi airport, the passengers, 332 plus 7 children, were taken off and the baggage was taken out while the competent Pakistani authorities took the measures that had to be taken in such cases. He explained that the explosives, which were hand made, were indeed found in one of the suitcases among the baggage, but there was no indication as to the name of the owner of the suitcase.

He stressed that the explosives were connected to a timing device but by the grace of God the electric wire connection was detached and, consequently, the explosion timing had stopped. He said that the Pakistani security authorities were questioning all the passengers, but preliminary information indicated that the Pakistani security authorities suspected five of the passengers.

The Pakistani interior minister, Aitzaz Ahsan, has expressed his country's great regret over what happened. In a communication with the Servant of the Two Holy Places' embassy in Islamabad, he promised that the necessary investigations would be carried out.

### Shamir Returns, Describes U.S. 'Understanding'

*TA2411131289 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1204 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir landed at Ben-Gurion Airport a few moments ago. Here is our political correspondent Natan Gutman:

[Gutman] The prime minister began speaking to the press here at the airport about 30 seconds ago. He said: It is good to come back home. Let us hear his remarks, time permitting:

[Begin Shamir recording, in progress] ...the president of France and the Italian prime minister. In the United States, I met with administration and congressional leaders.

The message I carried with me from Israel was two-pronged: first, to present and explain the Israeli Government's peace initiative; second, to call on world Jewry to lend a hand toward absorbing the expected waves of immigrants from the Soviet Union, Ethiopia, and other countries.

In my meetings with President Bush and Secretary of State Baker, we reached an understanding that the way to promote our peace initiative, which is irreplaceable and which is the sole plan on the international agenda, will be by concentrating efforts on getting the process started. In more concrete terms, this involves a meeting between us and representatives from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza—or residents of those areas—for a discussion of the election modalities.

We agreed that even though there are differences of opinion regarding the final stages of the peace process inasmuch as the final status of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza is concerned, it is definitely possible to march together along a substantial and significant stretch of the road toward conducting the process with its various phases. [end recording]

### Shamir Sees 'Clean Slate' in Ties With U.S.

*TA2411183789 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Shlomo Ganor at Ben-Gurion Airport upon Shamir's return to Israel on 24 November—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles; translated from the Hebrew]

[Text] [Ganor] Mr Prime Minister, on the eve of your trip, fears were voiced about the outcome of your meetings with U.S. Administration officials. Upon your return, following the talks you held in the United States, have these fears dissipated?

[Shamir] I think that to the extent that misunderstandings had existed, they were settled and cleared. It is possible to say that we have a clean slate today, and the tight and close cooperation between Israel and the United States is continuing and will continue in the future as well.

[Ganor] Did the fact that the Egyptian answer was not received facilitate your talks in Washington?

[Shamir] Well, that happened after the talks. Had the answer been received earlier and reached Washington during my visit, I might have been required to resume the talks. In this case, too, though, it is mere speculation whether this response would have facilitated or complicated my talks there. This simply did not take place.

[Ganor] This being so, how do you view the continuation of the process?

[Shamir] I believe that a positive response will finally be received, and that this will render possible the existence of the meeting that should be the first move or step in the peace process. After this meeting takes place, it will be followed by further moves. This is natural and understandable. Nor did we expect otherwise. We expected to face obstacles on our way, but we should not be deterred. We should persevere and overcome the obstacles.

[Ganor] Mr Shamir, you still found differences in opinion between the United States and Europe with regard to the PLO. How do you view these differences?

[Shamir] Look, since 1980 the EC's stance has been different than that of the United States. The European countries, for example, favored an international conference. Today their stance in favor of such a conference has largely weakened. One hears very little of this, if at all. The United States is determined to conduct the peace process together with us, with our agreement and cooperation, since it believes that only in this way does the process stand a chance of materializing. Therefore, I hope that with joint efforts we will achieve this goal as we have achieved others.

[Ganor] Mr Prime Minister, in conclusion of this visit to three countries, the United States, France, and Italy, which lasted about 2 weeks, how would you define Israel's standing?

[Shamir] I believe Israel's standing is solid and strong. Israel enjoys a great deal of prestige throughout the world. Even when disagreements exist on one matter or another, Israel's position is greatly appreciated, and its voice is listened to. I would only like this voice to be clear and always one of unity.

### Shamir Discusses U.S. Visit, PLO, Coalition

*TA2411193289 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Yig'al Goren at Ben-Gurion Airport, upon the prime minister's return to Israel on 24 November—videotaped]

[Text] [Goren] Mr Prime Minister, a gap has been uncovered between Israel's positions and those of the countries you have just visited. Does this gap lead you to think that there may be room to change Israel's policy?

[Shamir] No gap has been uncovered. The present disagreements existed in the past, too, and have been known to us and others for a long time. Nevertheless, we decided on the peace initiative as formulated a while ago. Therefore, it cannot be said that there is a tragic gap today between us and all other nations of the world. What does all nations of the world mean? Every country has a position of its own. In the deliberations and talks with the U.S. Government, it again transpired that there are differences of opinion on one issue or another, which is a normal thing. But despite these differences, we agreed and concluded that we can and will continue the peace process until the very last stages. This is a matter of several years, of course. When we reach the final stages, we will assess the situation and make a decision accordingly.

[Goren] We are talking about the immediate stages, though, the first stage of the negotiations. The United States has greatly increased its contacts with the PLO lately, and Egypt and the Soviet Union are trying to influence the PLO to accept the Baker initiative. It thus transpires that despite Israel's initiative, which was perhaps intended to circumvent the PLO, the PLO has been seated at the table for us.

[Shamir] This entire description of the situation is incorrect. The U.S. Government clearly knows that we do not intend to conduct negotiations with the PLO at all. This is clearly written in the peace initiative. It has also been confirmed to us several times by both the President and secretary of state that nobody will demand or request that Israel sit at the negotiating table with those with whom it does not want to talk. Therefore, we are undaunted by all these stories. I think that the peace process we are proposing is very good, very fair, and is the only one that can serve the interests and well-being of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza residents who live with us. As a result, despite the difficulties, we believe that this process will ultimately be implemented.

[Goren] We stick to our stand, while both the United States and particularly the European countries clearly state that we will not be able to promote our peace initiative, to which they are not opposed, without the PLO's involvement or at least consent.

[Shamir] Do not tie the United States and the European countries together. There is no foundation for this in reality. We have not heard a single word in this spirit from the United States. The United States is prepared and resolved to work together with us on the implementation of this peace initiative of ours. As for Europe, I would not say they are opposed. They say they are not opposed. President Mitterrand told me he is skeptical about the chances of success for the initiative, since he is not sure the Arabs will go along with it. Still, this has been our problem all along. We have always wanted peace, and it was the Arab side that has refused. We have come a long way to meet the Arab side, and hope we will ultimately find people and elements on that side who will choose to join us this time in the process we have proposed.

[Goren] The time may have come then, sir, to change direction, to adopt unilateral steps, for example, and delegate more authority to the Palestinians in Judaea and Samaria.

[Shamir] Well, everyone can make new proposals or ideas, and each one should be examined. I believe that having encountered the first obstacle, it is too early to abandon the process we proposed. We are an obstinate people, not only in war but in making peace as well.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, now that you have returned, will you approve a meeting of the Likud Central Committee to discuss the political situation?

[Shamir] I need not approve it; I have no difficulty approving such a meeting. When I did not think the Central Committee should be convened, I had my reasons. Still, if a request is made to convene this committee to discuss political matters, I would not see any difficulty. There would be no reason to prevent this.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, in the past you demonstrated a very firm position with regard to the religious parties. During your absence the human rights bill got stuck again because of the opposition of those parties. Do you intend to adopt a position on this matter?

[Shamir] I do not yet know all the specifics involved in the argument on this issue. I did hear this morning that matters are back to normal...

[Goren, interrupting] But the bill is stuck.

[Shamir] I do not know. I will look into the matter, think about it, and see what can be done in the future.

[Goren] Do you favor this human rights bill?

[Shamir] I do not oppose human rights.

[Goren] Are you in favor of this bill, though?

[Shamir] First, I should see what is opposed here, why, and by whom. There are various laws conceived with good intentions...

[Goren, interrupting] I am still asking you about your position.

[Shamir] I will examine the matter, speak with my colleagues, and make a decision, if necessary.

[Goren] I thank you very much, Mr Prime Minister.

[Shamir] Thank you.

### Shamir Says Bush, Baker 'Promised' No PLO Talks

*TA2411142789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir says that President Bush and Secretary of State Baker promised him unequivocally that they would not demand that Israel hold negotiations with the PLO. Shamir said he reached an understanding with Bush and Baker that the way to promote the peace initiative is to concentrate efforts on opening deliberations between Israel and representatives of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza residents on election procedures.

On coalition matters, the prime minister said he does not know whether difficulties exist. I will consult my colleagues and take the appropriate action, if necessary, Shamir stated. The prime minister noted that he takes a serious view of every statement made. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that Mr Shamir said this at a news conference at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return to Israel from a visit to the United States, France, and Italy.

### Sources See 'Grave Crisis' on U.S. Assurances

*TA2411144989 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Nov 89 pp 1, 13*

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Text] The U.S. is reportedly set to provide Egypt and the PLO with public assurances concerning the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue which are certain to create an immediate and grave crisis with the Likud, well-placed sources said last night.

The sources said that the U.S. assurances include support for the inclusion of Palestinians from outside the territories in the Palestinian negotiating team; qualified support for a "properly structured" international conference; support for the peace-for-territories formula and support for a virtually open agenda in the proposed dialogue.

Likud sources said last night that the report, if true, would probably lead to a confrontation with Washington, and to a serious government crisis.

Diplomatic sources told THE JERUSALEM POST last night that "the contents of the report concerning U.S. assurances contradict the information given to Israel by the administration in recent days."

Despite the far-reaching proposed U.S. assurances, Egypt has apparently not yet persuaded the PLO to forego its demand for a publicly-recognized role as appointer of the Palestinian delegation. For this reason, the Egyptian reply has yet to be formally delivered to Washington.

The U.S. is seeking to end its current give-and-take with the PLO before the upcoming U.S.-Soviet Mediterranean summit on December 2, the sources said.

They added that the PLO has enlisted the aid of the Kremlin, the European Community and Cairo in its attempts to secure more concessions from the U.S. administration. At the same time, these forces are also pressuring the PLO to agree to Baker's proposals.

The sources said that in Washington last week, President Bush and Secretary Baker urged Prime Minister Shamir to be flexible on the inclusion of outside Palestinians. Bush and Baker also said that in its assurances to Israel, the U.S. will not deviate from the five-point plan nor from other fundamental principles of its Middle East policy.

These principles, the sources said, include the participation of East Jerusalem residents in any political process.

The usually-reliable sources said the U.S. is also willing to publicly recognize that the Palestinian delegation will be appointed by the "main political and influential element in the Palestinian movement."

Washington is willing to add a private assurance that it recognizes the PLO role in appointing the delegation, but is not willing to make such a statement publicly.

Other assurances which the U.S. has reportedly agreed to provide the PLO include:

2. Israel will not have veto power over the composition of the Palestinian delegation, but will not be forced to sit with interlocutors against its will. This principle will also apply to the Palestinian side.

3. The Palestinian delegation will include both Palestinians from inside and outside the territories.

4. The "primary focus" of the proposed dialogue will be the elections in the territories. However, the Palestinians will be allowed to raise any topic they deem relevant, including those in Egyptian President Mubarak's 10-point plan. The U.S. believes that the most suitable time to raise topics other than the elections is in the opening statements of the dialogue.

5. The U.S. views positively the convening of an international conference, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, provided that the conference is properly structured, adequately prepared and convened at the appropriate time.

6. The U.S. is committed to the peace-for-territories formula in accordance with 242 and 338, but this topic should be dealt with only at the appropriate juncture in the negotiations.

7. The U.S. stands by its policy statement of September 16, 1988, given by former Secretary of State George Shultz. The statement included U.S. opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian state, as well as to Israeli annexation of the territories, recognized the "legitimate political rights" of the Palestinians, and said that an international conference could be an appropriate vehicle for direct negotiations.

Likud sources said that while the reported assurances did not deviate from previous U.S. policy statements made at various times and places in the past, their compilation in one document or statement, in the context of assurances to Egypt and the PLO, could "prove deadly" as far as Shamir is concerned.

The U.S., sources said, will also be willing to assure Israel that it will not be coerced into negotiating with undesired interlocutors, that it will not be forced to deviate from its May 14 initiative, and that the purpose of the proposed dialogue in Cairo is to achieve elections in the territories in accordance with the Israeli government's proposal.

### Sharon Urges Decision on 'Permanent Solution'

*TA2611120189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] The Cabinet session opened with security reports. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir later reported on his visits to the United States and in Europe. He said the visits were successful: Bush and Baker stressed their commitment to Israel and the alliance, which would not be harmed. He also said that the two sides agreed that the existing problems are over the permanent arrangement and not interim settlements. The prime minister, reiterating what he said at Ben-Gurion Airport on Friday, also noted that President Bush reassured us that he is not asking Israel to talk to the PLO. There is, therefore, no way the PLO can join the process, at least from Israel's viewpoint.

There was no real argument, but there were differences of opinion at the meeting. Minister Ari'el Sharon said that in his view what Israel must do now is to make a decision on a permanent solution. Sharon said that if we continue in the present trend to make step-by-step progress, it would bring about the establishment of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. Minister Sharon also said that if the election plan is implemented it would later be very hard to make progress on a permanent solution which would not endanger the existence of the State of Israel. What should be done, in Sharon's view, except for holding a debate on the permanent arrangements? In his viewpoint, we should impose Israeli law on the areas which, under the Labor Party's plan, would remain within Israel. We would also like to point out that the constraints ministers—Levi, Moda'i, and Sharon—left the meeting for consultations, and then returned. The reason for the consultations is still unknown.

### Shamir Asks Italy To Intervene With Gorbachev

*AU2411122789 Paris AFP in English 1155 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Rome, Nov 24 (AFP)—Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir left for Tel Aviv Friday after a brief visit in which he asked Rome to intervene on Israel's behalf with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who arrives here next week.

Mr. Shamir, who was rounding up a tour that took him first to Washington then Paris, asked Rome to urge Mr. Gorbachev to restore diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel.

The speaker of the Italian Senate, Giovanni Spadolini, also quoted Mr. Shamir after the two met Thursday as saying that an Israeli governmental delegation, most likely including Foreign Minster Moshe Arens, would visit Moscow next January.

But Mr. Shamir was vague on this point at a press conference Friday before his departure, neither confirming nor denying it.

"There are always talks between Israel and the Soviet authorities, however they are not on diplomatic relations but on economic and other subjects," he told journalists.

The two countries broke off diplomatic relations in 1967.

Mr. Shamir also met President Francesco Cossiga, Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis during his 24-hour visit.

Mr. Gorbachev arrives on an official visit to Italy next Wednesday.

At a dinner Thursday night, Mr. Shamir said a Soviet decision to restore diplomatic relations, along with a less hostile attitude from Arab nations, could help start negotiations with the Palestinians in the Israeli occupied territories.

At the press conference, Mr. Shamir deplored the assassination of Lebanese President Rene Mu'awwad in Beirut Thursday, saying this latest terrorist attack "well illustrated the situation in the region" and the "permanent tragedy of Lebanon."

He thought most Palestinians favored a peace process "because they see that violence leads to nothing."

As for the proposed negotiations, Mr. Shamir said Israel was awaiting word from Washington on its latest suggestions "in order to decide how to proceed with the peace process we have envisaged."

Israel's plan calls for elections in the occupied territories to form a delegation that would negotiate a provisional form of administrative autonomy there as a first step towards a solution to the Palestinian problem.

The Palestinians object to the plan because it refuses a formal role for the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and rules out an independent homeland.

Mr. Shamir also said Israel was closely watching the "rise of fundamentalist forces" in the Arab and Moslem world and, in this context, was "attentive to the results" of the recent elections in Jordan.

But he said it was "difficult to evaluate the real forces of these tendencies", and though no specific surveys were being made in the West Bank, "we are following the situation".

### Further on Italian Visit

For Jerusalem radio reportage on the visit of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to Italy, including his meeting with Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, see the Italy & Vatican City section of the 24 November West Europe DAILY REPORT.

### Air Force Attacks Jibril Targets in Lebanon

*TA2511101689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Air Force planes this morning attacked terrorist targets belonging to Ahmad Jibril's organization northeast of Lake al-Qir'awn in Lebanon. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman said the pilots reported direct hits on the targets. Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe points out that Air Force planes attacked targets belonging to Jibril's organization in the same area on Thursday night.

### IDF Refuses Comment on Reported Exchange Offer

*TA2411172689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Summary] In Beirut, a previously unknown group calling itself "the Organization for the Liberation of Palestinian Detainees" has announced its proposal to exchange the body of soldier Ilan Sa'adon for Palestinian detainees in the territories. "Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman refused to react to this report."

### Peres Departs on 'Official' Visit to Poland

*TA2711071189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres left for Warsaw this morning on an official visit aimed at tightening political and economic relations with Poland. Speaking at the airport before his departure, Minister Peres said that the turnabout in the Soviet bloc countries has created a situation in which no element in the region can rely exclusively on ties with these countries.

### Trip Seen as Prelude to Ties

*TA2611081589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Nov 89 p 8*

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Text] The Polish government will roll out the full red carpet tomorrow as Vice Premier Shim'on Peres arrives for a high-profile three-day visit.

Peres is slated to meet with all top Polish leaders. On Tuesday, he will fly in a Polish military plane to Gdansk, for a meeting with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

A senior official in Jerusalem last night described the highly visible tour as "tantamount to a resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries."

The Polish government does intend to resume relations with Israel, although a formal decision has not yet been made nor a timetable agreed on, Foreign Ministry sources said last night.

Peres's talks will centre on the peace process, as well as on political and economic ties between Poland and Israel.

A Polish government spokesman yesterday denied reports published on Friday here in the wake of the phone conversation Thursday, which cited Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski as saying to Foreign Minister Moshe Arens that the Polish government had already "decided in principal" to renew ties.

The reports had cited Foreign Ministry sources as claiming that Skubiszewski had called Arens to "inform him of the decision."

The ministry sources confirmed, however, that the Polish foreign minister had already told Arens in a New York meeting two months ago that Poland would renew ties in the near future.

Labour sources said last night that the foreign minister's bureau had spread a "hyped-up" version of the phone conversation to try to upstage Peres's visit.

The claim was denied in the Foreign Ministry, although a spokesman for Arens refused to divulge which side had initiated the Thursday conversation.

The ministry sources also said that Peres had kept the Foreign Ministry in the dark about his impending visit. But a spokesman for Peres said that the Foreign Ministry had been informed as soon as the Polish invitation had been received.

The spokesman added that Peres had specifically asked Arens to allow the Foreign Ministry's assistant director-general for East European affairs, Yosef Guvrin, to accompany him on the visit.

Peres's bureau, meanwhile, is negotiating with the Kremlin over the exact date of the finance minister's planned trip to the Soviet Union.

A message received here over the weekend proposed a date in the second half of next month. Sources close to Peres said that this date was inconvenient, and that contacts are continuing. Peres's policy adviser, Nimrod Novik, is expected to travel to Moscow following the Poland visit.

### Minister Katz-'Oz Leaves 'Secretly' for Moscow

*TA2711052189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-'Oz and Yehezqel Zakay, the director general of the Agriculture Ministry, left secretly for Moscow last night. Our correspondent Ya'aqov Balselboim reports that the two are expected to promote joint agricultural projects with East European countries.

### Moda'i Heads to Brussels for Unification Talks

*TA2711073089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] Economics and Planning Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i left for Brussels this morning for talks with EEC officials on the reunification of Europe in 3 years.

### Netanyahu Visits Switzerland, Finland

*TA2611101789 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Nov 89 p A2*

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef and Geneva-based correspondent Sari Robert]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu last night arrived in Finland to take part in a conference of solidarity with Israel. The Finnish foreign trade minister will represent the government in the conference.

Before arriving in Finland, Mr Netanyahu made an official visit to Switzerland and discussed the Israeli peace initiative and developments in the Middle East with the Swiss foreign minister and his deputy. On Friday [24 November] Netanyahu was received in Switzerland by Swiss Foreign Minister Rene Felber. Several days before that Felber held a meeting with PLO representative Abu-Hassan [name as published].

### African Stands on South African Ties Reviewed

*TA2611115289 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 26 Nov 89 p 1*

[Report by Moti Bassok]

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir plans to consult with leaders of black African countries concerning Israel's ties with South Africa.

Shamir will want to find out whether South Africa's neighbors have as strong an opposition to Israel's ties with Pretoria as President Bush and the U.S. senators he met in Washington.

The appeal to the black African continent is meant to gauge whether the latest U.S. outcry was not largely deliberate and artificial. Shamir's associates emphasized yesterday that two of the leading African countries, Kenya and Ethiopia, have renewed their diplomatic relations with Israel only recently, and that none of the African countries that have resumed their ties with Israel ever raised the issue of relations between Jerusalem and Pretoria at all.

### 'Senior' Gorbachev Adviser Visits Beersheba

*TA2411134489 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Nov 89 p A8*

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Text] The head of the Israeli division in the Soviet Academy of Sciences, one of Mikhail Gorbachev's senior advisers, visited Beersheba yesterday.

It was reported from the Beersheba Municipal Council that Tatyana Krasova met with the mayor and expressed interest in municipal affairs. The mayor told the adviser that Construction and Housing Minister David Levi had approved the building of 4,000 housing units, presumably primarily for Soviet immigrants.

Beersheba is home to the largest population of Soviet immigrants arriving in Israel over the past decade.

### Ceausescu Cited on 'Arafat's Position on Talks

*TA2711084889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Nov 89 pp 1, 8*

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpt] Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu has said that PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat is willing to abandon the concept of an international conference and to engage in a dialogue with Israel "in almost any circumstances."

Ceausescu made the remarks last week in meetings with MAPAM [United Workers Party] MK [Knesset Member] Ela'zar Granot and Labour MK Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, who were attending the conference of the Romanian Communist Party.

In a cable from Ambassador to Romania Tzvi Mazel, Ceausescu was cited as saying explicitly that 'Arafat was willing to accept U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's five-point proposal for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. Both Granot and Ben-Eli'ezer, however, said last night that the Romanian president had made no such remarks, though Ben-Eli'ezer added that he "could understand that that was the intention."

In his cable, Mazel depicts 'Arafat as "the highest-ranking representative of foreign parties or national liberation movements" to take part in the Bucharest Congress.

Both Granot and Ben-Eli'ezer had protested to Ceausescu about the "imbalance" in his public praise of

'Arafat and his ignoring of the Israeli delegation. Ben-Eli'ezer pointed out that Labour and MAPAM were the only Western Socialist parties represented in Bucharest, and that Mazel was the only Western ambassador to participate.

Ceausescu replied that 'Arafat was the most esteemed guest at the conference, and had to be "rewarded" publicly. At the same time, he expressed appreciation for the close Israeli-Romanian ties. [passage omitted]

### Cooperation Accord With Hungarian Radio Reached

*TA2611123689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Hungarian radio correspondents have expressed a willingness to directly transfer to the Voice of Israel reports and recordings on developments in Eastern Europe. The two radio stations will also broadcast joint programs on music, literature, and culture. This agreement was reached this morning by Hungarian Radio Director Istvan Hajdu and Israel Broadcasting Authority [IBA] management in Jerusalem.

IBA Director General Arye Meckel said he welcomes the tightening of ties with Hungarian radio and noted the wide interest in Hungarian affairs in Israel.

### Alignment's Bar'am Outlines 3 Desired Reforms

*TA2311172189 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Nov 89 p 11*

[Commentary by 'Uzi Bar'am: "The Changing World and Us"]

[Text] Processes everyone thought would take years are happening before our very eyes and take only days to occur. The crumbling of the Berlin Wall is not an isolated example but a sign of a new world order. South Africa is evincing the first buds of political realism. The Cubans are leaving Africa, the Soviets are pulling out of Afghanistan, and the relentless and inexplicable war between Iran and Iraq has finally ended. Western Europe is marching, quite boldly, toward the significant step of economic unification. Yesterday's borders are becoming an anachronism. Eastern Europe, under Gorbachev's leadership, is ready to forgo its image of strength and power and opt for great yet painful reforms; to turn its back on communist ideology for a search for a substantial, viable alternative.

Lacking military strength and devoid of natural resources, Asia has nevertheless become a leading economic power. And that includes not only Japan but also Singapore, Korea, and Taiwan.

Only a decade ago it was widely believed that communism was expanding, that the West was undergoing a political and social crisis, that democracy was decaying. Now the average American says: "I do not think about the Soviet Union and the missiles. I think about Japan, cars, and computers."

Already now one can say that substantial changes have occurred in man's concept of himself and his surroundings, the individual's desire for self-realization, and society's view of itself and its path. A new reality, as more and more people understand, is emerging that no society can make an impact if it is incapable of sustaining itself economically. The East European countries, with the Soviet Union as their spearhead, realize that the Warsaw Pact can amass weapons and conduct exercises ad infinitum, but that without sweeping reform—economic and social—the effectiveness and viability of all these would still be highly questionable. The desire to join a "free" market economy necessitates internal social changes, an overhaul in the order of priorities, and a revamp of the means of production. The communist regime has decided in a dramatic move to sacrifice ideological values for the long-term survival of the society.

And where are we? We are stuck on the dead-end road of Mubarak's 10 points or the Baker initiative. There we argue and haggle over each comma and other minutia. The change in the whole world, the new spirit of faith and conciliation and of concentrating on the building of a new society and economic strength seems to have passed over us. The leadership is too circumspect, failing to proceed in any direction. Israel, home to a wise people, is being ruled by an uninspired leadership lacking an optimistic vision.

To create a new world here in the Middle East, we must defuse the Arab threat and extract the venom from the network of our fears and apprehensions (part of which are well justified). The only contribution the Israeli peace initiative had was in establishing the concept that there is no way out of negotiations with the Palestinians and that without granting them a mode to express their aspirations we will never be able to make progress toward a settlement with the Arab world.

The Israeli Government should urge Israeli-Arab reconciliation, break the sanctity of the consensus, and invite the PLO to open, direct negotiations. Elections in the territories could be an important process, although I am not sure they are a necessary stage. They will create an elected leadership that will enjoy moral and political validity to conduct negotiations. It is commonly stated that this leadership will be a PLO puppet. But seeing the results of the Jordanian elections, who can assure us that the inspiration will not be even more radical and fundamentalist?

Will a leadership strong enough to compromise and face up to the upswing trend of nationalist populism emerge? The PLO, Israel's avowed enemy, can represent itself and has a leadership, but it also has the power to compromise because we will not reach an agreement on the basis of a Palestinian state within the 1967 borders. The Israeli Government should initiate a dialogue with the PLO and simultaneously broaden the channels of communication and contact with the Arab world at large.

The existential risk we would be assuming by failing to set our house in order or make economic and social progress, and by relaxing in conceptual and political apathy, far outweighs the risk involved in taking the initiative. The compromise with the Palestinian world must be founded on the right to self-determination within such borders and under such security arrangements with which Israel can and will be ready to live. We will not be able to stand against a nation fighting for self-determination. We must not reach a situation in which our country is completely worn out by a futile battle against its own future, in fact, by trying to deny the Palestinians self-determination. The Israeli leadership should show courage and determination and renounce cliches and ideologies whose time has passed along with those of Brezhnev and Ceausescu in the communist world.

It is necessary to state outright that Eretz Yisra'el will be repartitioned for the sake of attaining an agreement. Israel will demand defensible borders. The Palestinians will not be granted self-determination within the 1967 borders, but this will be part of any arrangement.

Israel must take part in every move toward a settlement in a bid to reach a dialogue with Arab countries on joint initiatives, particularly Middle East detente which will form part of a worldwide trend.

Three fundamental reforms are imperative for Israel to become a decisive factor and for its economy to become competitive.

A. The vision of Greater Israel should be given up. A settlement should be sought through negotiations with the PLO and the representatives of the Arabs in the territories.

B. An electoral reform should be devised. The large party blocks should agree to change the electoral system and grant the prime minister—who will be elected in a direct vote—quasi-presidential powers. Basic laws should be legislated: one to anchor the prime minister's authority and outline its boundaries in such a regime; and the other—toward which work has already begun—on civil rights, which merely complements a constitution and administrative reforms, upholds individual rights, and describes individual obligations. An administrative change will make decisions possible, and will support the government in efforts to advance issues that "fall between the chairs" of the bureaucracy and the political forces.

C. Socioeconomic thinking founded on a market economy should be instituted. It is necessary to have a high motivation to work and provide incentives for small- and medium-sized enterprises. And most importantly, the restraints on the Israeli economy should be removed by limiting, if not altogether abolishing, government intervention in the capital market.

Israel, fighting for its security and image, must be a progressive society, but also one whose goals are clearly defined and attainable. And before all else, it must steadfastly strive to attain a sensible, feasible political settlement along with socioeconomic reform. This requires a courageous leadership capable of battling against the views of yesteryear for the sake of Israel's tomorrow.

## 'Worse Times' Forecast for West Bank Economy

*TA2711085789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Nov 89 p 8*

[Report by Kenneth Kaplan]

[Text] The West Bank Arab economy, ravaged by nearly two years of the intifada and the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar, is increasingly dependent on the Israeli labour market and is heading for worse times, the military establishment forecasts.

The area's economy has long been based on three major elements: commercial ties with Arab countries, local agriculture and some minor industry still in its infancy, and employment in Israel.

While the objectives of intifada activists had been to reduce the dependence of the Palestinian economy on Israel, their policies of enforced commercial strikes, shortened business days, and strike days have crippled local productivity, resulting in even greater dependence on income gained from employment in Israel.

This is reflected in military statistics for the number of West Bank Arabs working in Israel. There were an estimated 45,000 to 48,000 such workers before the intifada began in December 1987, and their ranks have swelled to about 60,000-65,000.

The intifada leadership has virtually given up trying to reduce the number of West Bank Arabs working in Israel, since it became clear that breadwinners would go to great lengths to circumvent blockades.

Other factors that hurt the West Bank economy are King Husayn's decision last year to sever ties between Jordan and the West Bank and the decline of the Jordanian dinar.

In an effort to alleviate the local dependence on the Israeli job market, Arabs in several areas in the West Bank, notably the Tulkarm district, have ploughed every centimetre of arable land this season in preparation for planting a maximum of winter crops.

This season's harvest of olives, meanwhile, is way below last year's bumper crop, due to the naturally occuring harvest cycles. Virtually all of this year's harvest is being consumed within the West Bank.

### King Husayn Congratulates Lebanon's Al-Hirawi

*JN2511122189 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] His majesty the king has sent a congratulatory cable to Mr Ilyas al-Hirawi on his election as Lebanese president. His majesty said Al-Hirawi's election asserts Lebanon's ability to surmount its pain and shows the people's determination to achieve national unity and sovereignty over the Lebanese territory.

### King Husayn Receives Al-Baz, Mubarak's Message

*JN2511190089 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received a message from His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, dealing with efforts to secure a Palestinian-Israeli meeting.

Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the president's office for political affairs and the Egyptian Foreign Ministry first under secretary, conveyed the message when his majesty received him today.

His Majesty King Husayn asked him to convey a reply to President Mubarak, which includes his majesty's opinion on these efforts and his assessment of facts related to them. His majesty's message also contained his assessment of Lebanese developments and of various major issues in the region.

### Prince Hasan Receives Monetary Fund Director

*JN2611172889 Amman Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] His royal highness the crown prince met the director general of the Arab Monetary Fund, AMF, Usamah al-Faqih, at the Royal Court today.

Discussion during the meeting focused on the role of the AMF in strengthening cooperation among Arab countries.

Mr al-Faqih praised the way Jordan handled its economic crisis, and briefed his highness on the fund's goals and aspirations.

The meeting was attended by the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan.

### Cabinet Approves Fiscal 1990 Draft Budget

*JN2611082889 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Nov 89 p 1*

[Text] Amman (Petra)—The Cabinet Saturday approved a 1990 draft budget totalling JD 1,105,812,000, Minister of Finance Basil Jardanah announced. The deficit amounts to JD 199 million, he said. The draft budget law will be forwarded to Parliament for approval, Minister of Information Nassuh al-Majali said. Jardanah disclosed that allocations for education were increased by JD 4.6 million to JD 93 million, and health by JD 3.6 million to JD 21.8 million. Jardanah said the budget deficit would be covered by development loans expected to reach $317 million. Jardanah said that domestic revenue is projected at JD 694 million in 1990, 17 per cent up from 1989 figure of JD 589 million. As for recurrent expenditure, Jardanah said it amounts to JD 97 million, including JD 60 million for subsidies. He stressed that the budget did not include allocations for the increase of civil servants' salaries. During Saturday's session, the Cabinet decided to retire Tariq 'Ala'-al-Din, Khalid al-Tarawinah, and Dawud Hananiya following their appointment as Senate members.

### Budget Provisions Detailed

*JN2711083389 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 Nov 89 p 1*

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—The Budget Department Sunday issued a statement outlining the main principles adopted by the government in the course of preparing the 1990 fiscal budget, which was endorsed by the Council of Ministers on Saturday.

The statement said that the budget of JD 1,105,812,000 took into consideration Jordan's endeavours to achieve the economic adjustment programme, to increase self-reliance and to boost production and exports.

It said the JD 199 million deficit, up from JD 122 million in 1989, was equivalent to 16.5 per cent of the gross domestic product in 1990, down from 20.2 per cent in 1989 and 24 per cent in 1988.

The statement said that the budget was based on the following principles:

1. The general effort to increase local revenues and self-reliance.
2. On the assumption that financial aid coming to the treasury will reach JD 162.6 million, of which JD 152.1 million will come from Arab countries.
3. Saving the greatest possible amount of capital expenditure.
4. Maintaining a reasonable level of social services.
5. Maintaining subsidy for commodities, for which JD 60 million has been allocated.

The statement noted that the fiscal budget has been divided into:

1. Recurrent budget.
2. Capital budget.
3. Financing budget.

Domestic and external loans to Jordan will not appear under revenues but under the third clause: financing budget, the statement added.

Following are main categories of the 1990 budget as endorsed by the council of ministers:

1. Revenues:
   a. Local revenues—JD 694.1 million.

b. Financial assistance—JD 162.6 million.

c. Loans due to Jordan from other countries—JD 50 million.

Total: JD 906.7 million.

2. Expenditure:

a. Recurrent expenditure—JD 852.4 million.

b. Capital expenditure—JD 253.5 million.

Total: JD 1,105.8 million.

3. Deficit—JD 199.1 million.

4. Repayment of loans—JD 87.5 million.

Total deficit: JD 286.6 million.

According to the statement, the deficit will be met through loans as under:

1. External loans—JD 252.9 million.

2. Internal loans—JD 33.7 million.

Total: JD 286.6 million.

The statement noted that JD 100 million in internal revenues were expected in 1990, especially coming from big increases in income tax, profits, customs duty, fees on cables, post office and telephone services, returns from the mining industry.

It said that there will be an expected JD 97.7 million increase in recurrent expenditure, due largely to the government's pledge to maintain subsidy on food supplies, the payment of interest on foreign loans, payment of pension and compensation.

The draft budget, will be presented to the Kingdom's newly elected Parliament soon after it convenes session Monday.

Prime Minister Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir has said he will resign after the session and it is not clear if Finance Minister Basil Jardanah will retain his post in the new government.

The official cost of living index has risen by 31 per cent in the past 12 months and the Jordanian dinar has lost two fifths of its dollar value during the same period.

The Kingdom is rescheduling its $8 billion debt with foreign governments and commercial banks.

This year's budget forecast a deficit of 122 million dinars ($256 million at end-1988 exchange rates). Economists believe the actual 1989 deficit will be roughly double that figure but no official estimates are available.

Under an agreement with the International Monetary Fund, Jordan is committed gradually to trim its budget deficit over the next five years.

Jardanah has raised spending on education and health slightly, but allocated nothing for an increase in public sector wages, which have not risen across the board since March 1985.

## Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz Concludes Visit to Amman

### Meets With Prime Minister

*JN2211124689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] Amman, 22 Nov (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Zayd Bin-Shakir, the prime minister of Jordan. During the meeting, they reviewed the unique bilateral relations between the two countries and means of enhancing them. They also discussed the efforts under way to find a lasting and just solution to the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, based on Security Council Resolution No. 598, which aims at achieving peace between the two countries.

The meeting was attended by Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and the Iraqi ambassador to Amman. 'Aziz and Bin-Shakir also assessed the latest developments in the Palestine question and reviewed the Arab Cooperation Council's march and means for bolstering the joint action of its states within the framework of joint Arab action.

### Makes Statement, Departs

*JN2211130589 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] The Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz left Amman today concluding a 2-day visit to Jordan. In a departure statement, Mr 'Aziz said he had delivered a message to his majesty the king from President Saddam Husayn. He added that he would relay to President Saddam his majesty's analysis and remarks on the issues they had discussed. The Iraqi foreign minister said he held intensive talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and the Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, as well as the Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim. Earlier today, Mr 'Aziz discussed with the prime minister efforts to achieve permanent peace in the Gulf, the Palestinian issue, and bilateral ties. He also discussed with his counterpart the emergency meeting of the Arab League foreign ministers to be held in Tunisia on Sunday at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

## Transportation Agreement Signed With Iraq

*JN2311212689 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Eng Hikmat al-Khammash, minister of transportation and communications, and Muhammad al-Zubaydi, Iraqi minister of transport, today signed an agreement for international land transportation for persons and commodities between Jordan and Iraq. The agreement is designed to further facilitate and organize transportation between the two countries and other countries, as well as develop and organize the movement of means of transportation registered in both countries. The agreement provides for the formation of a joint

committee made up of representatives of competent quarters in both countries to follow up on the implementation of the agreement and tackle matters resulting from its implementation. The committee will hold alternate semiannual meetings in Amman and Baghdad.

## Information Minister Discusses Media's Role

*JN2111160689 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 19 Nov 89 p 5*

[Interview with Jordanian Information Minister Nasuh al-Majali by unidentified correspondent—date and place not given]

[Text] [AL-WAFD] Will you brief us on Jordan's new information and communication plan in light of the current democratic atmosphere?

[Al-Majali] Our new communication plan includes the essence of communication concepts prevailing in the democratic countries. These ideas are based on the citizens' right to obtain necessary information which affects their lives. On the other hand, the mass media have the right to obtain this information as soon as possible because this is linked to the people's right to learn about daily developments and about what is going on inside the community. You cannot ask people to be fully responsible for matters which they know nothing about. Responsibility must be linked to knowledge.

The Jordanian communication plan also calls for media channels that are open both ways; the mass media should not only send out information, but receive information as well. This means that the mass media should go out to the streets to meet with the people and transform ordinary citizens into television stars. Not only officials who address people with a tone of superiority should be TV stars.

We want ordinary citizens to have a share in the mass media, just as they have a share in the companies in which they invest their money. This will remove a great deal of misunderstanding about public affairs. When public affairs are discussed by people, they become common ones. The outcome of people's views will constitute a draft resolution concerning these affairs.

Silent reception by the audience does not mean satisfaction or understanding. Passive reception may indicate a misunderstanding, unwillingness to participate, or dissatisfaction. This leads to suppression and underlying tensions, which result in hotbeds inside people which can be exploited and cultivated by hostile forces. It is better to listen to the other opinion, to respect it, and to find common ground with it. It is safer to listen to the opinion which you do not accept and which you may disagree with and to build bridges between you and the other opinion, so as to reach an understanding about common issues.

[AL-WAFD] Will dealing with the other opinion be confined to mere listening, or do you believe that there should be more than only listening and dialogue? What about responding to the other opinion?

[Al-Majali] Democracy begins with respecting the individual as a human being. Therefore, respect should extend from dialogue to include practical steps. At many establishments and departments, a civil servant may deal with citizens in a snobbish manner. We must first affirm that civil service means serving the citizen, especially if the service he is asking for is legal. Even if the service requested is not legal, the citizen has the right to be treated with all respect. This makes respect prevail in the state and in society.

Respect for one's opinion is part of respect for him as an individual. Although I may disagree with you, there should still be space for dialogue between us, and we should resist fanatic belief in one opinion. I may have an opinion, but if I discover that your opinion is correct, I should respect truth and change my opinion or parts of it, and should admit to you that you have a viewpoint worthy of being respected. This removes doubts and prevents conflagration between people.

[AL-WAFD] I understand that the regime and government organs will not hesitate to hear other opinions.

[Al-Majali] As far as the regime is concerned, there is no hesitation about listening to other opinions; the evidence is that the elections were free and various trends made it to the Parliament. Some people were perhaps annoyed with the arrival of some trends to the Parliament, but as long as these trends have their own opinions, respect other opinions, have a vision to propose and discuss with people, and speak about programs and solutions to issues of concern to the public, then this arrival is legitimate.

[AL-WAFD] Is there an inclination to turn newly emerged political forces into political parties?

[Al-Majali] Yes. In his latest news conference, His Majesty King Husayn announced that the national charter will be proposed in the upcoming stage. On his majesty's orders, a national committee is now being formed to prepare the charter, which will represent national consensus—that is, the general formula of public issues preoccupying the citizens. There will be various views within this context. All this will be within the framework of the Constitution. Within the framework of this charter, national parties reflecting the various national inclinations in the country will emerge.

[AL-WAFD] Will each force or party have its own newspaper, and is Jordan going to see opposition newspapers?

[Al-Majali] This subject was not officially raised, but if the upcoming stage experiences the developments I mentioned, then this prospect will not be remote. But there are many forces that wish to have their own newspapers, and this will be part of the questions to which the charter will provide answers.

[AL-WAFD] How do you explain the success of the Islamic trend and the failure of the other political trends in Jordan such as the pan-Arab and leftist trends?

[Al-Majali] I explain it as follows: The average Jordanian is basically Muslim and religion-oriented. Many changes have taken place over the past 20 years. Although the pan-Arab trend is a strong and powerful one, it regressed over this period because it lacked organization. Perhaps it receded because of problems of achieving a solution to the Palestine question and because of the trend's inability to administer the struggle with Zionism on the Palestine question. The regression is also due to the divisions in Lebanon against the background of the Iraq-Iran war. All this affected the pan-Arab trend and caused it to recede.

The left-wing trend also regressed and was perhaps defeated on the scene because it did not propose real solutions to the region's problems. And with the current developments in the Soviet Union and the Eastern bloc, there is full confusion concerning this trend.

At times of despair, people turn to God. The region ha suffered from economic hardship that began with the Iranian aggression against Iraq and affected the entire region. People have suffered from this hardship, and it is natural that they have turned to God Almighty and shown strong religious sentiments.

This might be a trial of this new option, which has not been tested yet. I say, however, that first, the importance of this trend is that it came to Parliament by popular demand; therefore, it should respect this popular will and this support. Second, this popular support requires that this trend be logical, realistic, and aware of the tasks of the current stage. The stage does not start with the arrival of the Parliament, but with people's understanding of the social, economic, and political tasks of the stage. There are questions about social issues that must be answered. We do not answer the questions by creating slogans, but by presenting programs. You do not make up slogans to address the economic crisis, the decline in the value of currency, the scarce foreign currency, and the building up of currency reserves; rather, you address these issues through sound and applicable programs.

The current challenge to all forces in the Parliament is: What are your answers to the questions posed by the public and to the pressing issues? This is a big challenge.

## Moslem Brotherhood's Parliamentary Aims Outlined

*JN2211195789 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 21 Nov p 1*

[Text] Amman—Engineer Ziyad Abu-Ghanimah, information spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood movement in Jordan, has said that the 30 to 35 deputies of the Islamic bloc in the Jordanian Parliament will work in cooperation with the other deputies in the House of Representatives to reunite the two banks of Jordan. The prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, carried the good tidings that the decisive battle with the Jews will be launched from the East of Jordan [River]. He added that the deputies of the Islamic bloc will work to amend the Jordanian laws that are not in harmony with Islam, and that they will not hesitate to seek the issuance of legislative laws banning alcohol and nightclubs—laws that will give a bright image to Jordanian society, as Eng Abu-Ghanimah said.

In the first statement to the Arab press on the visions and trends of the Islamic bloc in the Jordanian Parliament, which was elected a few days ago and which will hold its first session on 27 November, the information spokesman said that the Muslim Brotherhood does not believe in military coups, extremism, or terrorism. He added that all these are slanderous allegations fabricated by the enemies of Islam in the East and West. Throughout their history, the Islamists have been victims and not makers of terrorism, as Eng Abu-Ghanimah said, adding that this picture will become clear in parliamentary practice. He said that approximately 40 years have passed since the Palestine question began, and we can wait longer, because this is better than conceding an inch [of Palestinian land].

## Al-Hirawi Takes Oath, Addresses Deputies

*NC2411194089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] At about 1930 today, Deputy Ilyas al-Hirawi was elected to succeed the late President Rene Mu'awwad at a parliamentary session which was held at the Park Hotel in Shtawrah. Al-Hirawi won by a majority of 47, with 5 blank votes being cast, in the second round of the voting. In the first round, al-Hirawi received 46 votes, with 4 blank votes being cast and 1 in the name of Deputy Edmond Rizq, who announced that he would withdraw his nomination at the beginning of the session.

President al-Hirawi, Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, and Prime Minister Salim al-Huss held a closed meeting during which they discussed the government issue.

Informed sources said that a government will be formed later tonight. The Chamber of Deputies will give this government a vote of confidence. An army commander and a director of intelligence will be named later. A military council will also be formed.

The session of parliamentary consultations chaired by Speaker al- Husayni this evening ended at 1920. At the beginning of the session, al-Husayni asked the deputies to stand for 3 minutes of silence to protest and denounce the assassination of President Rene Mu'awwad. Speaker al-Husayni then asked that Articles 49, 74, and 75 of the Constitution be read. These articles deal with the election of a president by secret ballot.

In his speech at the swearing-in ceremony, President al-Hirawi pledged to support the principles declared by President Rene Mu'awwad, for which he was martyred. He said that Zahlah and al-Biqa' have again consecrated the principles of unity against the principles of partition. He laid emphasis on the democratic option as opposed to dictatorial systems, the construction of a state of institutions as opposed to a state of anarchy, and a unitary state as opposed to a state of sects, the imposition of the state authority through its legal forces, the search for a concrete solution to the problem of the displaced, the liberation of the South from Israeli occupation through the implementation of UN Resolution 425, and the construction of a state capable of imposing its authority over all its territory. Al-Hirawi also asserted that only one rifle, which is the Lebanese rifle, should be in Lebanon. He declared his commitment to the Arab nation's causes.

Al-Hirawi thanked the Arab committee for its efforts to assist Lebanon. He stressed the need to open a new page between Lebanon and Syria and establish brotherly relations between the two countries within the framework of sovereignty and independence. He noted the need to abide by the accord document which was approved in al-Ta'if.

It should be recalled that this is the first time since 1976 that the Chamber of Deputies has held a session to elect a president at the Park Hotel in Shtawrah. The late President Ilyas Sarkis took the constitutional oath there because security events then prevented him from doing so at the headquarters of the Chamber of Deputies in Beirut.

## Sworn In at Shtawrah Hotel

*LD2411203889 Kuwait KUNA in English 1848 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Shtawrah, Eastern Lebanon, Nov 24 (KUNA)—Lebanon's newly elected president Ilyas al-Hirawi was sworn in today shortly after his election before house Speaker Husayn al-Husayni.

Present at the oath-taking ceremony were deputies and the ambassadors of Saudi Arabia and Algeria to Damascus who attended as representatives of the tripartite committee which comprises Morocco.

The ceremony took place at Park Hotel, the same place in which former president Ilyas Sarkis took the oath in 1976.

## 'Awn Source Comments on Al-Hirawi Biography

*NC2411195689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] AFP has reported the new Lebanese President, Ilyas al-Hirawi, is a second-rank politician from the al-Biqa' area and maintains good relations with Damascus.

President Ilyas Khalil al-Hirawi was born in Zahlah in 1926. He is married and has five children. He received his elementary, secondary, and higher education at the al-Hikmah School and received a bachelor's degree in commerce from that school. He joined the law school at the Jesuit University. He has been a deputy for Zahlah since 1972. He served as minister of public works under President Ilyas Sarkis from 1980 until 1982. He has been a member of the independent Maronite group since 1978 and belonged to the bloc of Zahlah and western al-Biqa' deputies between 1972 and 1975, when he withdrew from it for political reasons.

Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn, according to a source close to him, has described what is taking place in Shtawrah as a trafficking operation undertaken by Syria and the so-called deputies, who have had no responsibility since the dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies. 'Awn added, according to a source close to him quoted in a statement to AFP, that what is happening will only lead to failure and the partition of Lebanon. It will cancel any attempt at a dialogue among the Lebanese which might reach a settlement acceptable to the majority of the Lebanese people, who disagree with the al-Ta'if agreement, the source said.

### West Beirut Army at Al-Hirawi's 'Disposal'

*NC2411222789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2200 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] The guidance directorate of the Army Command in [West] Beirut has announced that the command is placing itself—commander, brigades, and forces—at the disposal of the new president as of the time of his election. The command expressed hope that the Army, under the leadership of the new president, will succeed in unifying the country and the military establishment and in severing the hand that assassinated the martyred President Mu'awwad.

### Al-Huss Declares Formation of Government

*NC2511060089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Dr Salim Al-Huss has declared the formation of the new government as follows:

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister: Dr Salim al-Huss
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Labor: Michel Sasin
Minister of Telecommunications and Post: George Sa'adah
Minister of Economy and Trade: Nazih Al-Bizri
Minister of Finance: 'Ali al-Khalil
Minister of Justice and Information: Edmond Rizq
Minister of Industry and Oil: Souren Khanamirian
Minister of Health and Tourism: 'Abdallah al-Rasi
Minister of Hydroelectric Resources, Housing, and Cooperatives: Nabih Birri
Minister of Public Works: Walid Junblatt
Minister of Defense: Albert Mansur
Minister of Interior: Ilyas al-Khazin
Minister of Education: 'Umar Karami
Minister of Agriculture: Muhsin Dallul

### Government Seeks Confidence Vote From Deputies

*NC2611103289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] The Council of Ministers held a meeting at 1100 today to put the final touches on the policy statement which the government will use to ask the Chamber of Deputies to give it a vote of confidence. The Chamber of Deputies confidence session will be held as soon as the government concludes its meeting.

Ministerial sources had said earlier that, after gaining the Chamber's confidence, the government plans to issue a number of financial and administrative decisions, including one reorganizing the military council and others appointing a new army commander and a director of intelligence. Following this, the sources expect the government to resort to taking a number of measures to prosecute Michel 'Awn on charge of rebellion and treason.

REUTER has cited parliamentary sources as having stressed that the government will ask Michel 'Awn to leave the Presidential Palace and that it will resort to force if 'Awn refuses to comply.

### New Group Threatens President Al-Hirawi

*NC2411215689 Paris AFP in English 2136 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Beirut, Nov 24 (AFP)—An anonymous caller issued a veiled death threat Friday against Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi, barely one hour after the new head of state was elected in a parliamentary vote.

"His mandate will last no longer than that of his predecessor," an anonymous caller, claiming to speak on behalf of the previously unheard of "Revolutionary Crusaders" said in a telephone call to a Western news agency in Beirut.

Mr al-Hirawi was elected by members of parliament in the central town of Shtawrah to succeed Rene Mu'awwad, who was assassinated in a bomb blast here Wednesday.

### 'Awn Vows To Confront Attacks on Eastern Areas

*NC2611151289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] In an interview with French Television's Channel 5, Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has affirmed his determination to confront any attack on the eastern areas. In the interview, Gen 'Awn did not exclude the possibility that the late President Rene Mu'awwad was assassinated because he refused to give orders to storm the eastern areas.

### Al-Hirawi Threatens To Use Force Against 'Awn

*NC2611173089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1720 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] REUTER today cited President Ilyas al-Hirawi as saying that he will resort to military force to confront General 'Awn if the latter insists on trying to stay in power. According to REUTER, President al-Hirawi added that under no circumstances will he accept the presence of two governments in Lebanon. He pointed out that Gen 'Awn could be fired from his post as Army commander within the next 48 hours.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister 'Ali al-Khalil was more specific when he told the journalists in Shtawrah that military weapons will be used if the legal and diplomatic steps do not achieve swift success.

### 'Awn Replies to 'Threat'

*NC2711073489 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] In reply to al-Hirawi's threat of a military operation that will last a few hours, Prime Minister General

Michel 'Awn said if the Lebanese Army conducts this operation, then al-Hirawi is welcome. However, if the Syrian Army conducts the operation, it will not be honorable for al-Hirawi.

In an interview with AL-DIYAR newspaper, Gen 'Awn stressed he will confront any operation, saying: We will defend ourselves and we will triumph. The people can rest assured.

Gen 'Awn asked: Is al-Hirawi flexing his own muscles or the muscles of the Syrian Army? Which is he using as a threat? Is the Syrian Army playing with al-Hirawi and using him as a cover for some big crime?

### 'Awn Expects Attack, Urges Intervention

*NC2611174689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1722 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] In an interview with French television today, Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn said that the Syrian forces are reinforcing their positions. He added, however, that he will not surrender if attacked, but will defend himself. Gen 'Awn said that it is possible that President Mu'awwad was assassinated because he refused to attack 'Awn's positions.

Gen 'Awn described the new government as a Syrian tool and said: I do not want blood; I want dialogue and freedom. I cannot support dictatorial regimes such as the Syrian one.

Gen 'Awn strongly criticized the major powers' stands. He said that the al-Ta'if agreement is not peace but a surrender.

In an another interview with Radio France Inter this evening, Gen 'Awn said that armed confrontation in Beirut is imminent unless the major powers intervene. He pointed out that an attack on his palace within the next 48 hours is possible, but added that this attack will not succeed. He noted that he will be on the front lines alongside his troops. He added that such an armed confrontation can be averted and that those countries which have a certain standing can intercede and approve our right to reject anything imposed on us. If those countries approve our right to determine our future, they must also intercede to prevent any intervention from the other side.

### 'Awn Grants Interview at Presidential Palace

*LD2611185189 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 26 Nov 89*

["Exclusive" interview with Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn to "special correspondent" Alain Menargues at the former's presidential palace in Lebanon; date of interview not given—recorded]

[Text] [Menargues] Good afternoon, General. You are personally threatened today. The president of the Republic, Ilyas al-Hirawi is asking you to resign. If you refuse, force may be used against you. Are you afraid, and what do you personally think of this threat?

['Awn] You know I do not recognize the election of Mr al-Hirawi because the Chamber [of Deputies] was dissolved on 4 November. All Mr al-Hirawi and the others are doing is collaborating with the occupying forces and this is usurping power, which is subject to court action according to our laws.

[Menargues] Be that as it may, you are still under a threat today.

['Awn] I am certainly under a threat, but I am defending myself, because you know, when one is defending one's freedom and sovereignty and also one's dignity, these are not just words. I think the French are aware these are inalienable rights, which can be disregarded anyhow [as heard].

[Menargues] Are you afraid?

['Awn] No, because I accept the sacrafice.

[Menargues] If they attack you, are you prepared to let armaments do the talking?

['Awn] Yes, I am ready to defend myself. It is the most elementary law. It is the most elementary, natural law to defend oneself and when one is attacked and when one's fundamental rights are also attacked.

[Menargues] General, there are talks of the Syrian reinforcement of the mountains which are overlooking the Ba'bada Palace. Is this true?

['Awn] Yes, there have been Syrian troop movements on the front. There have been reinforcements in the morning by the side of Ba'bada and in the surrounding area. This is true.

[Menargues] Was the Lebanese Army under your command placed in the state of alert?

['Awn] Everyone has been alerted. We are ready to defend ourselves.

[Menargues] Do you think armed confrontation is inevitable?

['Awn] Pardon?

[Menargues] Do you think armed confrontation is unavoidable?

['Awn] On the contrary, I think it can be avoided. If the countries [words indistinct] intervene to have it recognized that we even have the right to refuse what is being imposed. If they are aware of our right to self-determination, they should intervene to prevent military intervention on the other side.

[Menargues] Do you think that if none of the big powers intervene today and tomorrow, the confrontation is very close?

['Awn] Yes, I believe it is quite close. If they want to continue at the same pace as with the elections they carried out [words indistinct] tragicomedy.

[Menargues] Are you prepared, General, to wait for aid from, for instance, Western countries, such as France? Are you prepared to ask for it?

['Awn] I am asking everyone for help. It is an open appeal, not just to France, but I do not want to compromise anyone. I am not asking France and the French to fight for us but to explain our struggle to the world.

[Menargues] General, who is in your view responsible for the assassination against President Rene Mu'awwad. Among ourselves, can you say that his death is convenient for you?

['Awn] Not at all. It rather precipitates matters in Syria's favor and Syria, in panic, wants to finish things off as soon as possible because it is taking advantage of a momentum in its favor.

[Menargues] Who in your view stands behind this assassination?

['Awn] It is the Syrians.

[Menargues] Do you think that his successor, Mr al-Hirawi, is running the same risk himself today?

['Awn] It depends. He must accomplish his mission before he suffers the same fate.

[Menargues] General, what do you think of France's position and the recognition of the new president and the new government by Paris?

['Awn] I think that official France has been a little too eager. I would like it to reconsider its position, on the basis of more specific information about the morality of the government and the people who form it, and the aims of this government and of the Syrians.

[Menargues] What kind of information, what kind of morality are you talking about?

['Awn] The morality of all the people who form it and the way in which the elections were held, in an office of the Syrian intelligence services and all, or rather each [words indistinct].

[Menargues] General, do you think today, do you still believe in a peaceful solution? To hear you speak, are things once again on the brink of war?

['Awn] I do not believe in anything but a peaceful solution. I am defending myself to permit there to be a chance, to give a chance to a peaceful solution, because what is being asked of us is surrender. Surrender can only be a consequence of war. I demand a peaceful solution; I want dialogue. I am not bloodthirsty, I am not in favor of war; I am for freedom, for dignity, for the sovereignty of my country. These are things I cannot sign away.

[Menargues] Do you not think that by maintaining your position you run the risk in the end of being accused of being the main party responsible?

['Awn] No, not at all, I repeat. I reiterate what I said about freedom, sovereignty, and dignity: You know you have paid too dearly to achieve them to sign them away.

[Menargues] A Christian deputy arrived in Paris in the night, Mr Sassin.

['Awn] Yes.

[Menargues] Do you think that today, perhaps he will still be able to obtain something?

['Awn] No, I think he should resign; otherwise he would be responsible for any action by the government.

[Menargues] General, general, what do you think of the presence of George Sa'adah and Michel Sassin in the government of Salim al-Huss?

['Awn] It is a situation which is not yet final, but I think he should resign, otherwise he will be considered by the Lebanese people as acting in solidarity, he would be totally responsible for any action which might be taken by the government.

[Menargues] That does not mean, does that not mean that there are differences between the Lebanese forces [words indistinct] on one side and you on the other?

['Awn] I think the journalists who live among us know very well that those who collaborate with the Syrians no longer represent anyone but themselves; they no longer represent much for the people. So those who leave here do so on their own behalf.

[Menargues] General, a more direct question: Do you think that the Ba'abda Palace is likely to be attacked during the next 48 hours?

['Awn] Yes, it is a possibility, but I do not think this would be a fortunate attempt. I have always said, as I always said of Suq al-Garb, that one has to have a firm foothold to win the battle of Suq al-Garb; I say the same thing for Ba'abda. One has to have a firm foothold to succeed.

[Menargues] General, a last question: What means do you have to defend yourself in terms of men and equipment?

['Awn] Well, we have kitchen knives and we have stones and we have all (?we need) to defend ourselves. We prefer to be victims rather than submit to Syrian law, to the Syrian boot.

[Menargues] You are ready to defend yourselves down to the last man?

['Awn] I am ready to be the first to defend myself. I (?place) myself at the front, after others [as heard]. It is why...

[Menargues, interrupting] A question from Beirut: If during the next few hours a new commander in chief of the Army is appointed and if it is a Christian general who resides in the Eastern part, what will you do?

['Awn] Let me come and take up his command and see if he is accepted by the Army.

[Menargues] Do you think the Army will reject him?

['Awn] You are making suppositions which cannot happen. This is speculation rather than reality. It should not be thought of because everyone knows the Army is united, indivisible, and insuperable.

### Al-Hirawi Says 2 Governments Unacceptable

*LD2611201689 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] In Lebanon the new government under the chairmanship of the head of state met at the Park Hotel in Shiturah. Three of the 14 ministers appointed by Prime Minister Salim al-Huss were missing from the roll call. The determination of Ilyas al-Hirawi to put and end to it, to provide an opportunity at last to bring his country out of the crisis, is clear. General 'Awn must go quickly, armed intervention cannot be ruled out. Here is Ilyas al-Hirawi speaking to Dominique Roc of Paris radio:

[Begin al-Harawi recording] Until this moment there is still the general of the Lebanese Army, for the time being, perhaps (?for a while longer), for 48 (?hours). If he continues carrying out his policy in East Beirut I will on no account accept the existence of two governments on Lebanese territory, nor two ministries. At this point, and with regret, I must say he will have to take the consequences because we are there to clean up Lebanon, to put an end to the nonsense. I can say that in this event, if there is going to be a Lebanese army militia, it will not be permitted. We are not there to start another war. Lebanon has suffered enough wars, but in the event that he ['Awn] wants to force us, it cannot be [word indistinct]. It perhaps can be a matter lasting a few hours to put an end to all the problems we are having in Beirut. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Al-Hirawi Says 'Awn Will Bear 'Consequences'

*NC2711105489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi reiterated today his rejection of the presence of two governments in Lebanon.

In a statement to (France Avo) radio, he warned that General 'Awn will bear the consequences, because we are here to unify Lebanon. He said: Lebanon has suffered enough wars. We are not here to launch another war. However, if they compel us to do so, it will not be another war but an operation for a few hours to put an end to all the problems we are facing in Beirut.

### Syrians Reportedly Moved to Beirut, Mountain

*NC2711090289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] Citing security sources, REUTER reports Syria since last Wednesday has transferred 5,000 troops to the combat lines on the front with General 'Awn's troops south of Beirut and on the mountains east of the city. The agency quoted eyewitnesses as saying the Syrian reinforcements were seen heading during the last few days to the mountains and to Beirut.

AFP cited President Al-Hirawi sources as saying the Al-Huss government postponed the appointment of a new Army commander, because this appointment constitutes a declaration of war against Gen 'Awn. It said ministers close to Damascus wanted to appoint a new commander.

Observers noted Information Minister Edmond Rizq's statement after the vote of confidence in the government in which he stressed violence is not an option for the new government. This statement implies he rules out an imminent military confrontation.

REUTER cited parliamentary sources as saying the government postponed its first public measure against Gen 'Awn at the request of unnamed intermediaries.

### 'Awn Cabinet Shows 'Regret' Over Mu'awwad Death

*NC2211163289 (Clandestine) The Lebanese Radio in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] Al-Ta'if provides and Syria reaps, and the victim is Rene Mu'awwad. Rene Mu'awwad died in the explosion of a booby-trapped car in occupied Beirut this afternoon. The packaged Syrian security—the gift to the Lebanese people in the al-Ta'if document—blew up the person who trusted the Syrians and believed that the countries of the conspiracy would refrain from committing crimes against Lebanon. The Syrian protectorate that the world is proposing to Lebanon gave a sample of itself with flesh and blood, iron and fire. After today who can accept any imported and false security? What Lebanese will accept occupation after suffering the disasters they caused?

Immediately after receiving the report of Mr Rene Mu'awwad's assassination, the Council of Ministers met, with General 'Awn as chairman, and reviewed the initial available information about the heinous crime. The council expressed profound regret at the assassination of a leading northern Lebanese figure and offered its warm condolences to his honorable Lebanese Zgharta family. The council decided to refer the crime to the judicial council and urged the Lebanese to be vigilant vis-a-vis the serious conspiracy that is being carried out against Lebanon.

The Council of Ministers also drew the attention of the Arab family and the international community to the gravity of the criminal conspiracy to which Lebanon is

being subjected and called on them to put forward a serious initiative to halt this plot, now that its objectives and tools have been uncovered, and no further evidence is required to prove that.

### Shiite Group Possibly Involved

*NC2411070889 (Clandestine) The Lebanese Radio in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] [Words indistinct] military sources in West Beirut have disclosed that the room in which the explosive device that took the life of late President Rene Mu'awwad was planted, is owned by the West Beirut civil defense. The same sources have expressed surprise at the way in which elements of the Righteous Youngmen [Shabibat al-Huda] group managed to enter this room, and wondered about the source who gave the key to the room to the Righteous Youngmen to help them carry out the assassination.

It is known that the Righteous Youngmen is a racist Shiite group that has been known to make suspicious movements in occupied Beirut for years.

### 'Awn Calls for Support From Citizens, Expatriates

*NC1811162789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Nov 89*

[Address by General Michel 'Awn "to the Lebanese at home and abroad" on the occasion of Flag Day; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] Oh Lebanese people and those of Lebanese origin, oh Lebanese people around the world: Since my last message to you, developments have placed your motherland at a serious historical crossroads. Indeed, the very existence of a free Lebanon is today threatened with extinction. This situation demands a comprehensive Lebanese resurrection to confront the wide-scale international onslaught which seeks to serve its own interests at the expense of our existence, our freedom, and our cultural heritage which is the most ancient in this part of the east. This onslaught, which began 7 months ago, reached its peak during the Suq al-Gharb battles, the violence and savagery of which were unprecedented in our history. However your army and people stood fast in an unprecedented heroic and brave manner, manifesting their faith in what is right. All this happened while the entire world kept silent and made not the slightest move or embarked on the most modest initiative to protect a small homeland defending its free existence and human and cultural values against a wicked plot that sought to achieve its goals with the most modern and destructive weapons.

Your army and people, who offered many martyrs and sacrifices and sustained great losses, succeeded in preventing the plot from destroying the Lebanese entity. It was only then that some initiatives, appeals, and mediation efforts were made. Foremost among them was the initiative of the higher Arab committee, which won Arab and international support. We welcomed this initiative in our capacity as seekers of peace and right. We sought a guarantee for our free and dignified existence. We approved the deputies' departure for al-Ta'if where they soon agreed on all Lebanese domestic affairs, thereby confirming that there is no inter-Lebanese disagreement. However, it became evident in al-Ta'if that the higher Arab committee had backed down from the tripartite committee report, which clearly acknowledged that the Syrian occupation was the only obstacle to the Arab initiative. The higher Arab committee gave in to Syria and forced the deputies to choose between either signing the document as it stood or returning to face the destructive Syrian gun. Under this intimidation and temptation, the deputies fell into the trap of surrendering our homeland's sovereignty and its free democratic and parliamentary system to the occupation. Amid international pressure and collusion, the occupation thus succeeded in wresting from Lebanon in al-Ta'if what it had failed to achieve through the force of arms in Suq al-Gharb.

To prevent the realization of this concession to Syria through the election of a president who would be an obedient tool in implementing the concession, we quickly resorted to the use of our constitutional powers and dissolved the Chamber of Deputies to prevent legalizing the extermination of the Lebanese entity through the presence of foreign occupation. However, the plot persisted and it completed in al-Qulay'at what it had started in al-Ta'if by holding the sham and unconstitutional presidential election at a military base surrounded by the occupation's tanks, guns, and soldiers. As a result, the Lebanese rose throughout the liberated areas to express their rejection of this development with the largest demonstrations in Lebanese history. Our countrymen living under the occupation are awaiting the opportunity to express their rejection of the imposed legalization of the occupation and false settlements, which have nothing in common with the real reform that will secure justice and equality for all within the framework of a balanced and lasting solution.

Oh Lebanese people and those of Lebanese origin, oh people of Lebanon around the world, Lebanon's free existence is threatened with extinction. The Lebanon of freedom, democracy, and model peaceful coexistence is threatened with disintegration and dissolution because of regional domination, international silence, and foreign interests. Lebanon needs you today more than ever before. Come to its rescue as soon as possible. Unite in all parts of the world in one expatriate union embracing all forces and maintaining distinctions but not contradictions. Preserve your characteristics but safeguard the sublime national goals. Unite in an influential force and reject any spheres of influence that would scatter your strength and dissipate your effectiveness because of their failure to understand the correct national dimension. Move with all resources in all directions and at all levels to show the world the reality of the serious plot against your homeland, people, and honorable cultural heritage. Act in the international decisionmaking capitals without departing from the regulations and laws in force in the

countries where you reside. Make yourselves emissaries for Lebanon around the world, demanding the right of a people to a free life and the right of a homeland to liberation, sovereignty, and independence. Your government will deal with you from this premise and on this basis.

Oh Lebanese around the world, do not let the world rest until your homeland rests from the weight of the occupation. You have always provided unlimited international support and [word indistinct] for Lebanon. Your Lebanon is for you. Your Lebanon is calling on you and you must respond to the call.

### Lack of 'Tangible' U.S. Support Criticized

*NC2111094389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has affirmed that the United States has done nothing tangible for Lebanon and that it only supports the Lebanese Government with words.

In an interview with a French radio, he said that at a time when walls are coming down in Europe he hopes all combat lines in Lebanon will disappear.

'Awn hoped a positive resolution on Lebanon would emerge from the summit of the two superpowers in the Mediterranean next month.

### 'Awn Delivers Independence Day Speech

*NC2111205089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Speech by Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn on the occasion of Independence Day on 21 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Oh Lebanese people: Well over a year ago, when I was entrusted with assuming power in a country that was ablaze, I told you that what was required was not to elect a president who would give away what remained of your homeland, but to elect one who would regain what had been taken. In my first independence speech to you, I asked if we had to obey foreign wills that were in agreement on swiftly bringing to power a hostage president. We would have been false witnesses to the mercy killing of the entity. Regarding the issue of reforms that had become an urgent and essential national necessity, I asked you if we were required to carry out conditional reforms for powerless people who were not allowed to express their views on reforms or to pronounce their affiliation to their land, country, and idenity. I pledged to you then that I would work toward establishing a unified and strong Lebanon from the debris of weak and sectarian Lebanon.

At that time we were aware that the compatible interests of the foreign wills were determined to quickly install the figurehead president of an imaginery republic. We knew well that such a president would be another tool of occupation and a springboard from occupied Lebanon to what remained of sovereign bastions of free Lebanese. Therefore, we rejected a hostage president and refused to be a false witness of the assassination of our entity. Also, we rejected imposed reforms on our people, because any reform that does not emanate from the people's free will or take into account their needs and ambitions would not be a factor of stability and balance in the national equation that we sought. Those who caused the war against Lebanon, be they those who tampered with its sectarian and political structure and torpedoed its balance, security, and internal stability, and distributed it on the map of their regional interests that were in line with the interests of those whom they alleged to be their strategic enemy—they divided Lebanon into circles, strips, contact lines, and buffer zones—or those who viewed Lebanon and its people only as a surplus figure in the regional equation and an obstacle that must be removed to facilitate redrawing their interests in a settlement of the Middle East problem, or those who did nothing and just watched the Lebanese tragedy for 15 years; all of these are not qualified and have no right to impose a solution to the problem of a homeland whose fragmentation they caused which also resulted in suffering and tragedy for its people.

Was not all our suffering for 15 years a result of foreign occupation and interference, which succeeded in exploiting certain loopholes in our democratic system? Was not the war launched under the two headings of regaining sovereignty and achieving reforms? Has sovereignty been restored or have any reforms been made to justify all these festivals of triumph for the alleged achievements in al-Ta'if and false heroic deeds?

Our people have remained steadfast for 15 pitch-black years. They have also remained steadfast for over a year since the collapse of the Syrian-U.S. appointment agreement in Mansur Palace [Chamber of Deputies headquarters]. They signed in al-Ta'if a document to cede what remained of our sovereignty. In al-Qulay'at, they recited a penance prayer and apology for the people's steadfastness, martyrs, and resistance to hegemony and occupation.

What they consider to be an achievement in al-Ta'if can only be called treason and failure. It is total treason and a Lebanese failure to force the Syrian regime to recognize Lebanon and, consequently, to unequivocally agree to withdraw from all Lebanese territory that is recognized by the Arabs and the world. Those who went to al-Ta'if to wrest this recognition, returned after having signed for Damascus a humiliating document that authorizes it to appoint a president and ministers and gives it the right to decide to keep its forces in Lebanon wherever it wants and for as long as it wishes. In addition, they gave Syria the right to intervene in all Lebanese affairs, both domestic and security affairs. As for those who ceded al-Biqa', the north, and the south, let them know that no part of Lebanese territory will be a gift for anyone, because no one has a right to decide on one single iota of its soil.

The al-Ta'if document constitutes a total Arab failure that began with the Arab tripartite committee backing down on its report on Syrian intransigence and ended with the Arab League's failure to force one of its member states to comply with its charter. Thus, the Arab League has failed not only in preventing the precedent of an act of aggression by a strong Arab state against a weaker Arab country, but also in registering a more serious precedent, that is, the Arab community's recognition of an existing act of aggression, legalizing an act of aggression by one member against another and the occupation of the territory one country by another.

Inasmuch as the al-Ta'if agreement is a Lebanese treason and an Arab failure, it is also a blatant international failure. The international community failed to impose the UN Charter and the human rights declaration, and to implement UN resolutions on the need for the withdrawal of two occupying countries from the territories of a founder member state. Was the international community deceived or deceptive when its members hastened to support the al-Ta'if agreement that lelgalizes occupation, exonerates aggression, and provides an internatinal coverup to hegemony and domination in contravention of the UN Charter? How could the free-world countries fail to keep their credibility by preventing the violation of human rights in Lebanon, foremost of which is the right to self-determination? How could the communist and socialist countries fail to maintain their credibility regarding their claims that they support liberation movements and oppressed peoples in the world? In what logic does the world reconcile its failure to support Lebanon's right to determine its future by itself at a time when it hails the collapse of the Berlin Wall?

Oh Lebanese, the whole world knows that what took place in al-Ta'if is a grave mistake and even a crime. Whether the world recognizes this or not, a crime is a crime and a grave mistake is a mortal sin against international law and the principles of right, justice, and peace. However, this is not the first time, and will not be the last, for a small people to fall victim to international interests and pay the price for a regional balance of power necessitated by the ongoing game of nations. Despite this, history is replete with testimonies on the inevitability of peoples' triumph over plots, and the triumph by the will of steadfastness and liberation over the penchants for domination and enslavement. Our people have proved their ability, mettle, and preparedness for steadfastness and confrontation, and for foiling all suspicious plans and tearing down humiliating documents that they are trying to impose on us.

Oh Lebanese, we have repeatedly declared and proved that we are not warmongers, but seek right and peace. Is it too much for us to insist on our right to sovereignty over our land and to a free dialogue between ourselves to consecrate the reforms that will fulfill our needs and achieve freedom, justice, and equality for our people? Is it a crime to tell Syria and any other country that we want to have the best relations with them but free from the threat of force and after the withdrawal of the last occupying soldier from our land? Is our request to the Arab League and the United Nations to act in keeping with their charters and principles considered a departure from the Arab and international consensus? If this is an erroneus concept to which the world of the end of the 20th century has stooped, and if we are to be forced to choose between accepting this unjust concept and rebelling against it, let everyone know that we will rebel and reject and insist on winning our dignity, independence, and freedom even if we have to confront the world. Moreover, we reject without hesitation the lie of unification under occupation, because it would lead to disintegration [tadhwib], as much as we reject any form of partition.

From these firm convictions and premises, we are currently waging the fiercest battle in our march toward independence. Perhaps this is the first time in our history that we wage a genuine march toward real and final independence. This liberation march will show who is a brother, friend, and foe. In light of this knowledge, we will determine our candid relations with our surroundings and the world free from feelings of fear, weakness, and complications.

Oh Lebanese people, leaders, and figures, I would like you to answer this question: Are you really convinced that what is taking place is the sound path toward a sovereign, free, and independent Lebanon that will ensure security, justice, and stability for all its sons? If your answer is no, the liberation march is awaiting you and can accomodate all wills, arms, and hands.

Oh Lebanese everywhere in Lebanon and the world, Lebanon is yours, all Lebanon is yours. Lebanon will triumph. Long live Lebanon.

## Elections Create 'Discord' Within Hizballah

*NC2211103489 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic*
*20 Nov 89 p 8*

[Text] In the wake of clashes between gunmen from the Amal Movement and Hizballah in the Suhmur township in western al-Biqa', Amal leader Nabih Birri was asked whether these clashes represented a new round of fighting. Minister Birri immediately replied: We have said before and we repeat today that the inter-Shiite fighting is over and will not be renewed for any reason.

A Hizballah delegation which included Subhi al-Tufayli, the party's secretary general, and Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement, visited Birri in his home to reiterate that the fighting will not be renewed and that the party is committed to its agreements with the Amal Movement. These assertions reassured Birri, according to Amal sources, that the Suhmur incidents were merely a passing summer cloud.

However, on the same day as the visit, certain regions in the Southern Suburb were the scene of the most fierce clashes in a long time, in which machineguns and rockets

were used. The clashes caused panic among the public, who thought that the dark days of fighting had returned.

Though the Syrian Arab Forces managed to settle the issue and restore normality, several people wondered about the real causes and objectives of the clashes, particularly since eyewitnesses have asserted that the clashes intensified when Hizballah gunmen attempted to take over a building belonging to the Amal Movement in the al-Musharrafiyah district.

Observers believe that the clashes were instigated by Hizballah because of an internal crisis generated by the severe state of discord reflected during last week's elections. In an attempt to contain this crisis, the new Hizballah leadership, represented by newly elected Secretary General Subhi al-Tufayli, fabricated disputes with other parties, including Amal, to close Hizballah ranks and deflect the anger generated within the party by the election results.

In the recent elections, al-Tufayli received six votes while 'Abbas al-Musawi received only three votes. Hence, al-Tufayli became the leader of the party, in his capacity as secretary general. The choice was restricted to al-Tufayli and al-Musawi when Husayn al-Musawi decided not to run and expressed his reservations, or rather dismay, over the party's internal situation and certain leaders' opposition to establishing ties with other parties inside and outside Lebanon and maintaining good relations with the Amal Movement.

As a result of the recent elections, the new Shura Council (the party's leadership) includes Subhi al-Tufayli as secretary general and 'Abbas al-Musawi, Hasan Nasrallah, Muhammad Yazbik, Husayn Kurani, Abu-Salim Yaghi, Muhammad Fanish, Muhammad Ra'd (Abu-Hasan), and Na'im Qasim as members. The Council was thus expanded from its original four members: Subhi al-Tufayli, Husayn al-Musawi, 'Abbas al-Musawi, and Hasan Nasrallah.

Despite their nomination, Ibrahim al-Sayyid, better known as Ibrahim al-Amin, and Hasan Khalil were excluded, although they had been members of the previous political bureau of the party.

These results have generated a state of confusion within the party, particularly among the supporters of Husayn and 'Abbas al-Musawi, who expressed their dissatisfaction with al-Tufayli's election. The dissatisfaction was demonstrated by the fact that only 450 members took part in the military parade staged by the party last Sunday, despite intensive efforts by al-Tufayli and his supporters to guarantee the largest possible participation in the parade.

In conclusion, there is a widespread belief that the elections have consolidated rather than limited the decentralization of the party. This is clear in the approaches of the new leader, Subhi al-Tufayli, whose election was seen as reflecting "an escalatory stage," according to a high-ranking official in West Beirut.

### Amal, Hizballah Centers in Al-Biqa' Closed

*NC2011182689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Nov 89*

[Text] According to an AFP correspondent in al-Biqa', Syrian forces have established a new center at the entrance of the township of Suhmur, 5 km from the security belt, in the wake of clashes between Amal Movement and Hizballah gunmen last week. The new center is manned by 30 soldiers.

Citing Syrian sources in al-Biqa', the agency said that the Amal and Hizballah centers in Suhmur and Libbaya had been closed and that the Syrian command has threatened the two sides with force if fighting erupts again.

### Syrian-Algerian-Iranian Contacts on Hostages

*JN2111165589 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 20 Nov 89 p 1*

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that Syrian-Algerian and Iranian contacts currently taking place away from the limelight in efforts to release a number of foreign hostages in Lebanon have come a long way in a positive direction, especially after the U.S. Government released a portion of Iranian assets amounting to $550 million.

Lebanese sources close to Tehran in Damascus affirmed to AL-ITTIHAD that the results of these contacts will become clear during the next 2 months at the latest, and that during Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati's recent visit to Damascus and Algiers, talks centered on this subject, as well as on the subject of frozen Iranian assets in the United States, which amount to more than $4 billion.

### Minister Abu-Jamrah Comments on 'Awn Government

*NC1711151889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 Nov 89*

[Text] After the meeting of the Council of Ministers ended at 1400 today, Minister 'Isam Abu-Jamrah stated: We discussed all political and other issues. We are satisfied with the political situation and are acting in our capacity as the legitimate government. I would like to reassure the citizens that everything is available—gasoline, fuel oil, gas, and water. We have enough wheat to last us for 2 years.

### Phalangist Official on Need for Christian Unity

*NC2111091289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] Phalangist Party deputy leader Munir al-Haj has said the government scheduled to be formed should be a national reconciliation government with all key figures taking part. He noted that the establishment of such a government requires a certain level of agreement within both the Christian and the Muslim camps, adding that this is what has been lacking in the eastern area so far.

Al-Haj pointed out that efforts to achieve unity of ranks in the eastern area have been timid and halting. However, he said, although it may seem difficult to achieve this, it is not impossible.

### Amal, Hizballah Leaders Discuss Incidents

*NC2211083789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] A meeting between a Hizballah delegation led by His Eminence Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli and an Amal Movement delegation led by Minister Nabih Birri was held at the Islamic Republic's Embassy in Beirut yesterday. The meeting, called by the Islamic Republic's ambassador in Damascus, Hojjat ol-Eslam Shaykh Mohammad Hasan Akhtari, was attended by the embassy's charge d'affaires in Beirut brother Abu-Ahmad.

The conferees discussed a host of issues concerning Muslims in the domestic arena. They also discussed the recent incidents in western al-Biqa' and the Southern Suburb and agreed to tackle the causes of these incidents to prevent their recurrence.

The two parties asserted that no one would benefit from any deterioration of the security situation, noting that directing attention toward the Zionist entity comes first. They also stressed compliance with the articles of the accord sponsored by the Islamic Republic and Syria.

The conferees set up field committees of Hizballah and Amal members which will deal with any security incident immediately.

### Soldier's Body Offered in Exchange for Detainees

*NC2411155089 Paris AFP in English 1517 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Beirut, Nov 24 (AFP)—A previously unknown group offered here Friday to exchange the body of an Israeli Army officer killed in the occupied territories for the release of Palestinians detained there.

In a statement released in Arabic and English, the "Organisation for Freeing the Palestinian Prisoners" claimed to have the body of an officer named Ilan Sa'dun and attached photocopies of his Hebrew identity papers as proof.

The organization, without specifying the dates or locations of the incidents, said the officer and another Israeli soldier, Avy Sasberter, were captured by "two of our acting groups" in the occupied territories.

The groups were "forced to kill the soldiers due to their resistance," the statement said.

It said Israel had reported the discovery of Avy Sasberter's body but had not mentioned Ilan Sa'dun, knowing "that Sa'dun's body, weapon and documents are still in our hands."

"We declare our readiness to exchange the officer's body with the Palestinian prisoners in the prisons of the Zionist enemy," it said.

Israel announced in May the discovery of the body of a paratrooper called Avi Sasportas, who had been abducted in February. Several Palestinian suspects, members of the Hamas fundamentalist group, are on trial for the crime.

### Paper Cites Source on Beirut Demilitarization

*NC2211102089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN has cited an Arab source, whom it says is associated with the tripartite committee, as saying that he expects surprises and changes in Lebanon in the next few days, perhaps even in hours.

The source criticized General 'Awn's stands and referred to the military option if all diplomatic and political efforts fail.

The source noted that those who stand to lose will try to hinder the demilitarization of Beirut. However, the source added, the process of disarmament and the restoration of nomality and legitimacy to Beirut will not take longer than a few weeks.

### Phalangist Leaders Chair Meetings, Comment

*NC1311174889 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 13 Nov 89*

[Text] Dr George Sa'adah chaired an extraordinary meeting of the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau, Central Council, and Consultative Committee in Dayr Sayidat Nayfuq at 1445 today. Sa'adah briefed the conferees on the criticisms of him and explained what had actually happened.

This morning, Dr Sa'adah received delegations from various areas and party officials from several regions, districts, and departments. He then made an inspection tour of the military positions along the central al-Batrun front.

During the tour, Sa'adah affirmed that the al-Ta'if document enjoys Arab and international support. He cited three steps designed to rescue Lebanon which are contained in the Arab document: the election of a new president, the formation of a government, and the ratification of the constitutional laws. Sa'adah asserted that within 2 years, as stipulated by the document, not a single Syrian soldier will remain in Lebanon except in some parts of al-Biqa'.

In another development, attorney Munir al-Haj, Phalangist Party deputy leader, chaired a meeting of the party's Political Bureau and Central Council. He said that the rejection of the al-Ta'if accord would mean the

abandonment of hope at a time when there is no substitute for the accord. He called for a quiet dialogue to enable the country to pass through this crisis and to remove the stalemate produced by differences of opinion. He noted that the situation in East Beirut will only be finalized by dialogue. He said that, no matter how positive, the [word indistinct] is worthless without unity of ranks. The right, or rather the duty, of the people, he added, is to learn about all the different views, for there is no democracy unless comparisons can be made between different opinions.

### Birri, Junblatt Return From Talks in Damascus

*NC2111211289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri and Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt have returned from Damascus after holding talks there with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

On the occasion of Independence Day, Birri called for intensifying military operations in the south against Israel. He said that independence did not start on 22 November but started at the southern gate of Beirut on 6 and 7 June 1982 when the Israeli invasion was confronted. He added that there is no meaning in celebrating Independence Day and there is no meaning in talking about sovereignty while there is land occupied in the south, western al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

### Hizballah Radio on Iraqi-Israeli Cooperation

*NC2411090689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] It reliably is reported that during his recent visit to Jordan, Iraqi regime leader Saddam Husayn pledged to the Zionist entity he would not use the military bases located on the coast of the Gulf of 'Aqaba against Israeli interests. The reports added Saddam and Jordan's ruler Husayn Ibn-Talal had met with Zionist war and foreign ministers aboard a tourist ship in the Gulf of 'Aqaba. The same reports noted the Iraqi regime agreed to pay an annual sum of $50 million to the Zionists and to initiate military cooperation with Israel in return for permission to build a naval base and air bases in the Gulf of 'Aqaba.

### Central Bank To Continue Payment of Salaries

*NC1711203589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 Nov 89*

[Text] AFP has quoted a responsible source in Lebanon's Central Bank as saying that the bank will continue to pay the salaries of employees residing in the eastern area. The official stressed that the problem of liquidity in the eastern area is on the way toward being solved.

AFP has cited a political source in West Beirut as saying that the Central Bank decided to continue the payment of salaries to employees in the eastern area in order to avert the actual partition of the country.

### Israeli Artillery Shells Southern Areas

*NC2211085189 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] The Zionist occupation artillery carried out a violent and concentrated bombardment against the Abu-Rashid and Jabbur areas in western al-Biqa' last night. Several shells were fired at the Al-Daydabah hill. The shelling, which lasted until midnight last night, did not cause any loss of life.

Zionist warplanes also flew over Marj 'Uyun, reconnoitering the areas of Abu-Rashid, Jabbur, and Tumat Niha, and dropping flares.

### Casualties Reported

*NC2311143789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Israeli warplanes carried out a raid in two waves at 1355 and 1400 today on the al-Sultan Ya'qub, Lusi, and Riyaq areas in central al-Biqa'. Reports indicate several civilians were injured. An official of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine affirmed no losses were incurred in the targeted positions, and the enemy aircraft did not fulfill their objectives. The official stated two people were injured in the Lusi area and taken to the hospital.

### PFLP-GC Announces Casualties

*NC2311175389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1742 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has announced one Palestinian died and six were injured in two Israeli raids on two Palestinian bases in al-Biqa' today. [passage omitted]

### Group Claims Attack on Syrian Checkpoint

*NC2211085689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli has announced that a group of its Dawn forces [Quwwat al-Fajr] attacked a Syrian special forces checkpoint at the Turbul crossroads on the Tripoli-al-Dinniyah road at 0215 today. Several members of the special forces were wounded and Syrian troops immediately began combing the area.

### Clashes Said 'Raging' in Mountain Area

*NC2311170789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1650 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Clashes have been raging since 1700 today on the Suq al-Gharb combat lines in the mountain area. Antitank weapons were used at the outset, and the fighting

intensified at around 1800. Machineguns and rockets now are being used in the clashes, and the sound of explosions can be heard all over the capital and in the B'abda area.

### West Beirut Explosion Aimed at Syrian Forces

*NC2311214189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] According to security sources in West Beirut, an explosion at 2130 tonight was directed against a position manned by Syrian forces in the al-Hamra' area. The blast seriously injured a Lebanese citizen and caused extensive property damage. The sources said the explosion was caused by an explosive charge, which had been placed under a vehicle in a street where the offices of the Syrian intelligence service are located. Syrian special forces promptly cordoned off the area and prevented journalists from approaching.

### 'Nationalist' Positions Reportedly Under Fire

*NC2411140889 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Beginning this morning, nationalist positions have come under periodic heavy-caliber machinegun fire from the al-Yarzah army gangs' positions opposite them.

Shortly before noon today, the Kayfun area was subjected to sniper fire from the positions of the same gangs in al-Qal'ah and the officers' quarters.

### 'Large Bomb' Blows Up Near SLA Position

*TA2411124789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] A large bomb exploded in the security strip in southern Lebanon this morning near an SLA [South Lebanese Army] position. No one was hurt. The charge was made up of nearly 100 kgs of explosives.

UNIFIL [UN Interim Force in Lebanon] has told our correspondent, Hayim Hecht, that in reaction, the SLA fired artillery and mortar fire at Bra'shit, north of the security force. The Lebanese police have reported six villagers were hurt by the explosion.

It also was reported that last night SLA soldiers found six mines planted on a patrol route on the border of the security strip.

### Resistance Fighters Attack

*NC2411124489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Resistance fighters detonated an explosive charge when a joint Israeli-Lahdist [Southern Lebanese Army, SLA] patrol was passing on the Bayt Yahun Road at 0800 this morning. As a result, the occupation forces fired machineguns at the town of Bra'shit and fired on the nearby valleys with 60-mm mortars from their positions in (Ctallat al-'Ayyah).

### 2 Dead in 'Major' Riot at South Lebanon Prison

*TA2711085289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] Two prisoners were killed by gunshots in a major prisoner riot in the al-Khiyam detention facility in the southern Lebanese security strip last night. The shots were fired by prison guards, who are soldiers in the SLA [South Lebanese Army]. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that hundreds of Shiite inmates ran amok in their cells, exhorting Amal and Hizballah leaders to act to obtain their release. The prison wardens, members of the SLA, fired tear gas canisters into the cells. When the rioting did not subside, they used live ammunition.

Approximately 400 inmates are being held by the SLA in the al-Khiyam facility. General Lahd has launched an investigation.

## Reaction to New Lebanese Leadership Reported

### Al-Asad Cables Al-Hirawi Congratulations

*JN2411192289 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1835 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Following the announcement that Ilyas al-Hirawi was elected president of the Republic of Lebanon by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad sent him a cable of congratulations. The following is the text of the cable:

Your election today as president of the republic has strengthened our faith that the fraternal Lebanese people, who are determined to entrench Lebanon's unity—territory and people—and who aspire to rebuild the homeland, resume normal life, and terminate the anomalous state of affairs, will not be dissuaded by a tragedy with the magnitude of the painful and momentous loss entailed by the assassination of martyr President Rene Mu'awwad. I see in your election a tribute to the soul of the martyr president who clearly had demonstrated his determination to steer the Lebanese ship to safe shores in spite of all obstacles.

While extending to you and the fraternal Lebanese people heartfelt congratulations on this trust the representatives of the people have placed in you, I would like to express great hope and confidence in the success of the task you have assumed and also to express my sincerest wishes of success for your efforts and the efforts of the national accord government to definitively repulse the partitioning conspiracy and realize the fraternal people's aspirations of building a united Lebanon that will proceed toward a new era whose main features will be amity and accord among all of its sons, and in which grudges will be discarded and work will get under way for the reconstruction and the liberation of the territory from Israeli occupation.

Your election has come to prove those who committed the odious crime of assassinating martyr President Rene Mu'awwad have failed to achieve their objective of blocking the road to the march of accord and peace in Lebanon.

Rest assured Syria will keep its pledge to sacrifice for the sake of Lebanon, and will support you, the national accord govermment, and the fraternal people in all the efforts and good endeavors whose objective is to render successful the national accord march in all its aspects.

While asking God to grant you success, I hope the Lebanese people will enjoy tranquility, stability, and peace.

### Al-Zu'bi Congratulates al-Huss

*JN2511211089 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi has sent the following cable of congratulations to Dr Salim al-Huss on the occasion of forming the new Lebanese cabinet under his leadership:

On the occasion of your reforming the new Lebanese cabinet, it pleases me to send to you, in the name of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and in my own name, the heartfelt congratulations on the dear trust you have gained to resume your virtuous march of serving the Lebanese people. I am confident the Lebanese people's will and determination to reinforce the bases of accord, to restore security and tranquility, and to bolster their national unity will enable them to confront all threats—however strong—and stand relentlessly and resolutely against anyone who seeks to play havoc with the security and peace of this lofty Arab country.

The sincere fraternal relations between our countries will continue to be a strong support for the Lebanese people in their efforts to achieve their aspired objectives, which are embodied in the restoration of security and prosperity to their homeland. I wish you success in your tasks, and continued progress and prosperity for the fraternal Lebanese people.

### Al-Harawi 'Target of Plotters'

*JN2511074089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0545 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Process of Reconciliation Continues," TISHRIN writes the following in the "Behind the Events" column:

The criminals' schemes have failed, and the cowardly operation targeted against President Mu'awwad,—and through his life, Lebanon's Arabism and its sons' reconciliation—only has strengthened the Lebanese people's determination to continue with the national solution to save their homeland from the claws of the Zionized divisionists. Once again, the Lebanese deputies were on the level of challenge. They came to Shtawrah from various areas and European capitals to register, once again, their rejection of the divisionist Zionist scheme, as well as their determination to move with Lebanon from the quagmire of death, destruction, and sectarian fragmentation toward unity, reconciliation, fraternal coexistence, and cooperation with the Arab brothers. Thus, this time the deputies unanimously elected Ilyas al-Harawi president of the republic and leader of the stage of national reconciliation to continue the march launched by his predecessor, martyr President Rene Mu'awwad.

Al-Harawi is known for his great belief in fraternal Lebanese coexistence, reconciliation among the sons of

the one homeland, and this homeland's relations with its surroundings and environment. Certainly the new president, who is facing a big national mission and shoulders huge responsibilities, will also become a target of plotters who want to divide, kill, and destroy Lebanon. But President al-Harawi possesses all the cards to sweep those from the Lebanese arena, regain the reins of power, and enable the Lebanese Government to restore its role, prestige, and influence, protected by the efforts of the faithful people in Lebanon, who constitute the majority in Lebanon.

The Lebanese deputies' consensus on electing al-Harawi has a remarkable significance. Consensus will not take hesitant stands, as of now, in the face of the criminals and their dark, mean schemes. As martyr President Rene Mu'awwad enjoyed Syria's absolute support, this unlimited support, expressed by leader al-Asad, will be placed at the disposal of President al-Harawi. Syria considers national reconciliation, sought by all Lebanese, to be the objective of all objectives. Throughout the past 14 years, Syria has offered dear sacrifices to save the sisterly state from the claws of the black, divisionist Zionist plot aimed at the two twin countries—Lebanon and Syria. Syria, which, like Lebanon, mourns the martyr President Mu'awwad, also welcomes new President al-Harawi, wishing him success. Success is the only option for everyone. This is the fate of the Lebanese; and what a wonderful fate it is indeed.

### Newspapers Comment

*JN2611075189 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0545 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper AL-BA'TH asserts that the unparalleled consensus displayed by the Lebanese deputies' election of President al-Hirawi before the body of martyred President Rene Mu'awwad was laid to rest is indicative of the defiance and determination that Lebanon will rise above its wounds and emerge stronger than all conspirators. The paper adds: This election also has proved Lebanon is capable of evading all ambushes, and that nothing will be allowed to prevent the consummation of its constitutional march and the entrenchment of its national accord on viable bases, which will make use of the Lebanese people's capabilities and their historic vitality after unprecedented suffering and agonies.

AL-BA'TH says the Lebanese national accord march will forge ahead and show no reluctance in crushing all those who might stand in its way. The paper adds: Besides, this march will not hesitate for one moment to close all the loopholes that have caused division, fragmentation, and infighting; destroyed the accomplishments and gains scored in a whole century; and paralyzed the mechanism of the national decisionmaking process for a long period of time.

Concluding its editorial, AL-BA'TH states: The Lebanese are not alone in this battle. There is large-scale and wide-ranging Arab and international support backing them. Besides, Syria always has been backing them and siding with them. In his message to President al-Hirawi, leader al-Asad averred Syria will honor the pledge to continue to make sacrifices to defend Lebanon, and support and back the president, the national unity government, and the fraternal people in all noble efforts that seek to render the national accord march a success.

In one of its commentaries, the newspaper TISHRIN notes the partitionists have sought throughout the past few months to create a state of animosity between Lebanon and Syria in implementation of the Zionist scheme that seeks to destroy Lebanon and the region and to create conflicting sectarian cantons. TISHRIN adds: These black endeavors have been crushed against the rock of Syrian-Lebanese brotherhood. Past events have shown the reconciliation march in fraternal Lebanon has been a Lebanese-Syrian march, as Syria has supported and backed the brothers' efforts. Syria seeks to achieve nothing other than accord in fraternal Lebanon. It seeks to see Lebanon recuperate and regain its effectiveness.

Concluding its commentary, TISHRIN says: The reconciliation is bound to triumph. As for the enemies of reconciliation, they inevitably will collapse in the face of the sweeping, unity-seeking Lebanese current.

### Syrian, Lebanese Communist Parties Meet

*JN2611164289 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Damascus, 26 Nov (SANA)—The Syrian and Lebanese Communist Parties have praised the important role played by Syria, and President Hafiz al-Asad in particular, to achieve the al-Ta'if agreement on Lebanon, and the decisive and flexible stands taken in this regard.

This came in a joint statement issued by the two parties following a working meeting recently in Damascus between a delegation from the Lebanese Communist Party Political Bureau under Secretary General George Hawi and the Syrian Communist Party Central Committee under Secretary General Yusuf Faysal.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the latest developments in the Arab situation, particularly regarding Lebanon, the Palestine question, and means to support the valiant intifadah, which is approaching the conclusion of its 2d year. [passage omitted]

### Daily on 'Proposed' Iraqi-Israeli Alliance

*JN2511173689 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1505 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Damascus, 25 Nov (SANA)—The newspaper TISHRIN has stated the Iraqi regime and the Zionist entity cannot change Syrian policy, no matter how many alliances and agreements they sign. In its commentary today, the newspaper says the Israeli official's proposal,

which was carried by world news agencies yesterday and calls for establishing a strategic alliance with Saddam's regime to isolate Syria, has not come from a vacuum, but is based on a number of measures and alliances that will enable the two sides to achieve strategic cooperation and start an organized campaign against Syria, the wall that has remained steadfast against the enemies.

The newspaper says the new Israeli proposal is not the first of its kind, because many Zionist officials have made similar proposals. It adds this fact indicates an obvious agreement in views and roles between the officials of the Iraqi regime and the Zionist entity.

The newspaper also says the actual rapprochement between the Iraqi regime and the enemy's entity, which started with Camp David, lately has expanded and taken the forms of visible and invisible alliances for playing a united role against the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Lebanese question, and that the two sides have played the same role in hampering a just solution to the Palestine question and in supporting the policy of partition in Lebanon.

The newspaper adds that everyone knows the parties to the proposed alliance—Israel and Iraqi—have been acting individually and together against Syria and its pan-Arab and principled policy in the Palestinian and Lebanon arenas in particular, but this always has resulted in a victory for Syria and its national causes and a defeat for the parties to the alliance.

Concluding, the newspaper says Syria is made strong by its leadership, its people's will, and its nation's support. It also will remain an impregnable wall and an effective force for regaining the nation's full rights and building the modern Arab age.

### President Meets Argentine Official 26 Nov

*JN2611205489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] At 1700 today, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received (Alfredo Carille Jumah), state secretary at the Argentine Foreign Ministry. Jumah conveyed to his excellency the president greetings from President Carlos Menem. The president thanked him and asked him to convey similar greetings.

They discussed bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

### Al-Ahmar, Romania's Dascalescu Meet in Bucharest

*JN2511211489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; and Comrade Constantin Dascalescu, Romanian prime minister, met today in Bucharest.

Comrade Dr Wahib Tannus, Ba'th party Regional Command member; and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Bucharest attended.

The meeting was in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship. The two sides discussed cooperation issues between the two friendly countries and means of promoting that cooperation, based on the principle of joint interests and mutual benefit, and according to the instructions of Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Nicolae Ceausescu.

### Al-Ahmar Returns 26 Nov

*JN2611160689 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1545 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Damascus, 26 Nov (SANA)—The leading party delegation, headed by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, the assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, returned today to Damascus from Bucharest following a visit to Romania. The delegation attended the 14th conference of the Romanian Communist Party.

The delegation also held a number of meetings and talks with Romanian officials and delegations taking part in the conference. A program for cooperation between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Romanian Communist Party was signed. [passage omitted]

### Al-Asad Greets Romania's Ceausescu on Re-election

*JN2511080689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a congratulatory cable to President Nicolae Ceausescu on his re-election as general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] Central Committee. Following is the text of the cable:

It pleases me to send to you in my own name and on behalf of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Leadership my heartfelt congratulations on your re-election as general secretary of the RCP Central Committee, expressing to you my sincere wishes for success in leading your country.

On this occasion, I would like to affirm to you my confidence the relations of friendship and cooperation that have been established between our parties and countries throughout the past years will continue their development in coming years.

I wish you good health and happiness and wish the friendly Romanian people continued success and prosperity.

## Afghanistan

### Mujahidin Release 2 POW's to Soviet Ambassador

*BK2711111289 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] Two prisoners of the Afghan war were handed over by the chief justice of the Afghan Islamic interim government, Pir Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, to the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan, Mr Viktor Yakunin, in Peshawar this afternoon. They were captured by Afghan mujahidin in 1986.

### Spokesman Denounces U.S., Saudi Aid to Rebels

*LD2611180889 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] An Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman has discussed U.S. and Saudi allocations to armed Afghan extremists. He said: Recently, the United States and Saudi Arabia reached an agreement to make $715 million available to the CIA to provide the armed Afghan extremists' with arms and other necessary items. First, it must be said that this decision contravenes accepted international norms and causes the continuation of war and bloodshed in Afghanistan. The allocation of new aid to armed Afghan extremists is aimed at achieving a military resolution to the problem of Afghanistan.

In making this decision, the United States, as a civilized state and so-called defender of human rights, acts in contravention of the Geneva accords, in letter and spirit, the resolutions of the ninth nonaligned conference in Belgrade, the 44th session of the UN General Assembly, and the will of the people of Afghanistan. It supports continued war and interference in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, and insist on a military resolution to the problem of Afghanistan, which is against the wishes of the people of Afghanistan and the world.

The past 10 months following the withdrawal of Soviet forces has showed that a military resolution has no prospects other than slaughtering people and ruining common Afghan land. The United States wants to inflict more damage to and victims of our war-torn country through continued war and prolong the misery of the Afghan people. Saudi Arabia, which so generously spends money to kill Afghans, pursues specific goals. Saudi Arabia, using its petrodollars, expands its influence through the rejected sect of Wahhabism and tries to bring the countries of the region under its influence and, eventually, the influence of the United States. This aid from the United States and Saudi Arabia, which is offered in contravention of the wishes of the people of Afghanistan and the world and is against international norms, in no way serves the cause of peace in our country, but intensifies bloodshed and destruction. The United States should not again try the patience of those whose patience has already been tried. That country should know that dollars, rockets, and arms cannot help the prospects for a military resolution. The problems of Afghanistan can only be resolved by political means and by the Afghans themselves.

By insisting on a military resolution and encouraging the extremist opposition to continue war, the United States gains the increasing hatred of the people of Afghanistan and its isolation in the world, so far as the issue of Afghanistan is concerned.

### Mujahidin Shelling Kills 19 in Kabul City

*BK2611164289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1634 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Kabul, Nov 26 (AFP)—Mujahidin gunners rocketted the Afghan capital for the first time in two weeks Sunday, leaving at least 19 dead and wounding dozens of others in the centre of the city, hospital officials and witnesses said.

One rocket crashed into a busy street in front of the 14-story Agricultural Development Bank near a cinema at 3.00 pm local time (1030 GMT), Bank Chairman Makshbini said. He added that the blast blew out all the bank's windows, injuring 10 employees. The dead and injured were rushed to Avicenia General Hospital, 200 meters from the site of the blast and to other hospitals in the city.

Twelve people were reported to have died and another 25 were injured, according to the emergency hospital, and 10 of the injured were taken to the Avicenia Chest Clinic where two were reported to have died, Deputy Health Minister Muhammad Asef Garwal said. Staff at the Jamhuriat Hospital said they had admitted 15 injured and five dead from the rocket blast. Reports from other hospitals were not immediately available.

Mr. Makshbini said he had seen ambulances take away scores of dead and dying. His bank is next to a busy intersection and bus stop close to Maywan, a main shopping thoroughfare.

A second rocket landed high on Khoe Sherdsrwayah, one of the many hills scattered through the city, but there were no reports of casualties.

### Military Operations in Nangarhar Province Noted

*LD2511165189 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] The courageous Armed Forces stationed in Nangarhar Province have decisively repulsed an attack by armed extremists, Pakistan militarists, and Saudi Wahhabis, which was launched on 23 Nov from the direction of Hesarshahi and Gerdikas against the security posts in Samar Kheyl. They were supported by heavy weapons fire and the Armed Forces inflicted a heavy loss of life on the joint enemy forces. The enemy groups have been under pressure yesterday and today from units and subunits and did not succeed in continuing their advance

on security posts in Kan-e Qatraghay. The enemy advances were halted and pushed back by the combat operation of the forces.

As a result of artillery fire and air raids, 109 of the joint enemy forces were forced to leave the battlefront yesterday and today, and their two motor vehicles carrying weapons and ammunition, three strong positions, four mortars, two hideouts, two recoilless guns, one rocket launcher, and three weapons and ammunition depots were destroyed.

Over the past 12 days, the armed extremists, Pakistani militarists, and Saudi Wahhabis have been launching heavy weapons fire on the security posts in Samar Kheyl, Kan-e Qatraghay, Behsud, and Jalalabad city. One person of the units was martyred and another six were wounded. Two inhabitants were also wounded.

The units and subunits of the Armed Forces in Nangarhar Province are accomplishing their duties with high combat morale and capability and have inflicted crushing blows on the joint enemy forces.

The spokesman added that units and subunits stationed in Khowst Major-District are mainly involved in strengthening their positions. They are highly prepared militarily against probable attacks by the armed extremists, Pakistani militarists, and Saudi Wahhabis.

The joint enemy forces have been shelling with heavy weapons the security posts around Khowst city; three personnel of the subunits were injured. In retaliation for the criminal deeds of the warmongers, artillery shellings and air raids were carried out on their position; 41 enemy personnel were forced to leave the battlefront. A vehicle loaded with weapons and ammunition, a rocket launching unit, and a number of the enemy's various weapons were destroyed.

According to another report, some units of the Armed Forces in Qandahar Province have conducted mopping up operations in Towrkotal region; 300 recoilless gun shells and 50 mortar shells belonging to the Pakistani-backed extremists were seized. As a result of artillery and air raids, 23 personnedl of the enemy were forced to leave the battlefront. The enemy's five hideouts, eight strong positions, two mortars, and three DShK's were destroyed. The enemy conducted heavy weapons fire against security posts around the city of Qandahar; seven inhabitants and one person from the subunits were injured.

### Mujahidin Attack Posts in Balkh, Kill 20

*BK2611153889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have launched attacks on several military posts between (Langar Siana) and (Kala Bakshan) in Dowlatabad District of Balkh Province. The Afghan Interim Government news agency, MIDIA [MEDIA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC AFGHANISTAN], says 20 members of the Kabul regime's militia were killed and 43 defected to the mujahidin. The agency adds that the mujahidin have also captured a Kabul regime post in Kheyrabad District.

### Fierce Fighting Reported West of Konduz City

*BK2511030489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, there was fierce fighting between mujahidin and Kabul regime forces west of Konduz city. The official news agency of the Afghan interim government, MIDIA [MEDIA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC AFGHANISTAN], reports the Kabul regime forces used extremely deadly weapons on mujahidin positions. According to the mujahidin, the advance of the enemy forces has been blocked and their attacks foiled. Kabul regime forces resorted to indiscriminate firing on the area, killing 15 civilians, including women and children.

### Mujahidin Attack Kabul Military Convoy in Herat

*BK2511153889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin attacked a Kabul regime military convoy in an area along the (Hundi) highway in Herat, killing a Kabul regime's Army commander and a deputy commander and their militia, and destroying armored personnel carrier. According to the Afghan Interim Government's news agency, MEDIA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC AFGHANISTAN, the mujahidin also hit several Kabul regime posts in an area of historic minarets in Herat yesterday.

The news agency reports that the mujahidin also captured a new military post set up by the Kabul regime in the (Separaghar) area of Kuh-e Safi.

The mujahidin carried out missile attacks on Lowgar Province Headquarters, killing 10 soldiers and wounding several others, the news agency adds.

## India

### Reportage on Election Results to Lok Sabha

#### Status of Leading Figures

*BK2611162489 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1605 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] In the tally of Lok Sabha results Congress-I has won 2 of the 8 seats declared. Its ally in Jammu and Kashmir [National Conference] has 2. The Janata Dal and BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] have won 2 seats each.

The first result declared this evening went in favor of Mr Madhu Dandavate from Rajapur constituency in Maharashtra. He defeated his Congress-I rival Mr Shrivaram Raje Bhonsale by more than 42,000 votes. Another result went in favor of Dr Karodi Lal of BJP who was declared elected from Sawai Madhopur reserved constituency defeating his nearest Congress-I rival Mr Ramkumar Mena by over 198,000 votes. The National Conference has retained the Baramulla seat in Jammu and Kashmir. Its nominee and sitting member Professor Saifuddin Soz defeated nearest independent rival Mr Ghulam Ahmed Ghanai by over 34,000 votes.

The union food processing minister, Mr Jagdish Tytler, has lost in the Sadar Bazar parliamentary constituency in Delhi. He was defeated by his nearest BJP rival Mr Vijay Kumar Malhotra by nearly 20,000 votes.

Mr P.M. Syed has retained his Lok Sabha seat from the Lakshwadeep group of island.

In Rajasthan, Mr Gopal Fachermal, Janata Dal, has been elected from Tonk. He defeated the sitting Congress-I member of parliament.

Another seat in Delhi has also gone in favor of BJP. Its candidate, Kalka Das, defeated his Congress-I rival Mr Dharamdas Shastri by over 5,000 votes in the Karolbagh reserved constituency.

### Results of 28 Seats Noted

*BK2611175389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Here is the latest overall tally for the Lok Sabha [elections]:

Total Seats: 543;
Elections held: 525;
Results declared: 28.

Party position:
Congress-I—11;
Janata Dal—8;
BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party]—4;
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham—3;
National Conference—2.

### 59 Lok Sabha Seats Decided

*BK2611191989 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1905 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Excerpts] In the Lok Sabha elections out of 59 seats declared so far, 25 have been bagged by the Congress-I; the AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham], 6; Janata Dal, 13; BJP [Bhartiya Janata Party], 9; CPI [Communist Party of India], 1; National Conference, 2; Muslim League, 1; and independents, 2.

And now a look at the leading trends for different parties for the Lok Sabha seats for which counting is still in progress:

Congress-I is leading in 153 seats; the AIADMK in 9; the National Conference in 3; the Janata Dal in 86; Congress-S in none so far; Telugu Desam in 2; DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] in none; BJP in 75; CPI-M [Communist Party of India] in 22. CPI is leading in 8 seats, and others in 21.

### Update on Tally of 169 Seats

*BK2711011689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0050 GMT 27 NOv 89*

[Text] Here is the latest overall tally for the Lok Sabha [elections]:

Total seats: 543;
Elections held: 525;
Results declared: 169.

Party position:
Congress-I—74;
Bharatiya Janata Party—35;
Janata Dal—33;
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham—10;
National Conference—2;
Communist Party of India-Marxist—3;
CPI [Communist Party of India—2;
Congress-S—1;
Revolutionary Socialist Party—1;
Independent—1;
Others—7.

### 'Astonishing' Results Seen

*BK2711022089 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi 0135 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The results of the first day of vote counting have been very astonishing. The prominent leaders who suffered defeat in elections are Buta Singh [home minister]; [Ministers] Bal Ram Jakhar [speaker of Lok Sabha], Jagdish Tytler, Rajesh Pilot, Jaipal Reddy, Ram Niwas Mirdha, B.K. Gadvi; Dr Dutta Samant, Lieutenant Colonel Bhavani Singh, and Ashok Gehlot.

The prominent leaders who won are Madhu Danadavate [Bharatiya Janata Party leader], Vasant Sathe, Rao Birendra Singh, S. Krishna Kumar, K.P. Unnikrishnan [Telugu Desam leader], P. Chidambaram, V. Shankaranand, Ajit Singh, Ram Bilas Paswan, K.R. Narayanan, L.K. Advani [Bharatiya Janata Party president], Devi Lal, P.V. Narasimha Rao [external affairs minister], Janardhan Poojary, Oscar Fernandes, and Shiv Raj Patil.

Congress-I has won the Chandni Chowk seat of Delhi. Its candidate, Jaiprakash Agrawal, has emerged victorious. In the East Delhi constituency, Minister for Information and Broadcasting H.K.L. Bhagat was leading by 97,000 votes. As already reported, Bharatiya Janata Party has won four seats in Delhi. [passage omitted]

Results declared: 203

Congress-I—84;
Bharatiya Janata Party—49;
Janata Dal—41;
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham—11;
National Conference—2;
Communist Party of India-Marxist—3;
Communist Party of India—2;
Muslim League—1;
Independent and others—10.

### 5 State Assembly Poll Results

*BK2711035889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0250 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Excerpts] In the elections held for the five state assemblies, the Congress-I has been voted to power in Karnataka. It has got an absolute majority in the 224-member assembly and is now heading for a two-thirds majority. The Congress-I is also far ahead of the ruling Telugu Desam in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly. However, it is lagging behind the Janata Dal in Uttar Pradesh. In the Goa Assembly, the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party has established a slender lead over the Congress-I. The counting of votes for the 32 assembly seats in Sikkim will be taken up today.

In Karnataka, out of 169 assembly seats for which results are available now the Congress-I has bagged 135, Janata Dal has secured 20 seats, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] 3, Janata Party-JP 3, and independents and others 8. [passage omitted]

Here is a flash: The union minister, Mr Sukh Ram of the Congress-I has lost to Mr Maheshwar Singh of the BJP from Mandi Lok Sabha constituency by a margin of over 28,000 votes.

In Andhra Pradesh, out of a 138 results declared so far in the 294-member assembly, the Congress-I has already bagged 93 seats. It is maintaining its lead in another 100 constituencies. Telugu Desam could only secure 27 seats, the BJP 4, CPI 3, CPI-M 3, Janata Dal 1, and independents 3. The National Front chairman and the Andhra Pradesh chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, has lost in Kalwakurthi constituency. He has, however, won the Hindupur seat. [passage omitted

In Uttar Pradesh Assembly, Janata Dal has won 23 out of 40 results declared so far. The Congress-I has bagged nine, BJP four, Bahujana Samaj Party three, CPI one. Two state ministers—Mr Baldev Singh Arya and Mr Kokab Hamid—have lost.

In the Goa Assembly, Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party has bagged nine seats and Congress-I seven. One seat has gone to an independent. The chief minister, Mr Pratap Singh Rane has won the (Pareya) seat. [passage omitted]

### Congress-I Holds Lead

*BK2711042689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0335 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The Congress-I continues to maintain its lead, having won 96 seats out of 227 Lok Sabha results declared so far. The tally of Congress-I and its allies has gone up to 110 with AIADMK [All India Annad Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] winning 11 seats from Tamil Nadu and the National Conference 3 in Jammu and Kashmir. The Congress-I is followed by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] with 51 seats and the Janata Dal with 39. The CPI-M has got five, the CPI three, Congress-S one, RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party] two, independents three and others seven.

The Congress-I is in the lead in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Tripura. It is lagging behind in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh where the BJP and the Janata Dal are in the lead.

The Rajasthan, the Congress-I is yet to open its account. Of the 24 results declared, the BJP has won 13 and Janata Dal 11. Only two results are remaining from Gujarat. BJP has won 12, Janata Dal 10, and Congress 2 from the state.

In Madhya Pradesh, of the 23 results declared, the BJP has bagged 15, Congress-I 6, while 2 seats have gone to an independent and others.

In Tamil Nadu, the ruling party DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] is yet to open its account with only one result remaining. The Congress-I has bagged 24 and its ally AIADMK 11.

Of the seven seats in the capital, the BJP has won four and the Congress-I one with two results still to come in.

In West Bengal, the CPI-M-led Left Front is in the lead in most of the 37 constituencies having won already 4.

Mr Kapildev of Janata Dal has been declared elected from Sonepat parliamentary constituency. He defeated his Congress-I rival, Mr Dharampal Singh, a sitting member, by a margin of 71,000 votes. Of the five results declared so far, three have gone to Janata Dal and two to Congress-I.

One more result from Jammu and Kashmir has gone in favor of the National Conference. The state revenue minister, Mr Peyare Lal Handoo, has defeated his nearest rival Mr Abdul Rashid Khan, an independent from Anantnag constituency, by a margin of 35,954 votes. With this result, the National Conference has bagged three seats, while the Congress-I one out of the total four declared.

One more result has come in from Bihar. It has been bagged by the BJP candidate, Mr Janardan Tiwari. He defeated the former chief minister, union minister, and

the sitting Congress-I member, Mr Abdul Ghafoor, by a margin of 167,000 votes in Siwan constituency. [passage omitted]

Here is the latest overall tally for the Lok Sabha [elections]:
Total seats: 543;
Election held: 525;
Results declared: 227.

Party position:
Congress-I—96;
Bharatiya Janata Party—51;
Janata Dal—44;
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham—11;
Communist Party of India-Marxist—6;
Communist Party of India—3;
National Conference—3;
Revolutionary Socialist Party—2;
Congress-S—1;
Independent—3;
Others—7.

The latest reports indicate that the Congress-I is winning 123 Lok Sabha seats; Janata Dal, 60; BJP, 65; CPI-M, 23; CPI, 6; RSP, 4; and Forward Bloc, 2.

### Congress-I Wins 168, BJP 69 Seats

*BK2711052289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The Congress-I is steadily maintaining its lead having already bagged 106 seats out of 247 Lok Sabha results declared so far. The tally of Congress-I and its allies has risen to 120 with the AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] winning all the 11 seats it contested from Tamil Nadu and the National Conference the 3 in Jammu and Kashmir which it had contested. The Congress-I is followed by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] with 55 seats and the Janata Dal with 48.

The Congress-I-AIADMK alliance has swept the poll in Tamil Nadu winning 36 seats out of 37 results declared so far. One seat has gone to the CPI [Communist Party of India]. In all elections were held for 38 seats from the state. The DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] ruling party in the state and constituent of the National Front has drawn blank so far. Only one result is awaited from Madras south.

From Gujarat, only one result is expected. Of the 25 declared so far, 12 have gone to the BJP, 11 to Janata Dal, and 2 to Congress-I.

From Rajasthan also, one result is yet to be declared and of the 24 already announced, the BJP has bagged 13 and the Janata Dal 11.

Eight results are yet to come in from Maharashtra. The Congress-I has bagged 25, the Janata Dal 4, the BJP 7, Shiv Sena 2, CPI 1, and independent 1.

In Bihar, the Janata Dal candidate, Mr Pratap Singh, is leading in Banka constituency by 190,000 votes over his nearest Congress-I rival and sitting member, Mrs Manorma Singh. Earlier it was officially announced that Mr Pratap Singh had been declared elected.

In Uttar Pradesh, the Banda parliamentary seat has gone in favor of the CPI.

From Madhya Pradesh, three more results have come in; two have gone in favor of the Janata Dal and one to the BJP.

In West Bengal, seven results have been declared so far. Of this, the CPI-M has bagged four seats, RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party] two, and CPI one. Mr Indrajit Gupta of the CPI has been declared elected from the Midnapur constituency. The former union minister and sitting member, Mr A.B.A.Ghani Khan Choudhury, has retained his Malda seat in West Bengal.

Six more results have come in from Orissa. Of this, the Janata Dal has bagged five seats, while one has gone in favor of the CPI-M.

Two more results have come in from Haryana. The union agriculture minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, of Congress-I has been declared elected in a multicornered contest from Faridabad constituency. He defeated his nearest rival, Mr Khurshid Ahmed Chaudhary, of Janata Dal by a margin of 131,200 votes. [passage omitted]

Here is the overall tally for the Lok Sabha:
Total seats: 543;
Elections held: 525;
Results declared: 247.

Party position:
Congress-I—106;
Bharatiya Janata Party—55;
Janata Dal—48;
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham—11;
Communist Party of India-Marxist—6;
Communist Party of India—5;
National Conference—3;
Revolutionary Socialist Party—2;
Congress-S—1;
Independents—3;
Others—7.

The overall trend: According to the reports of counting available so far from different centers all over the country, the Congress-I was winning in 168 parliamentary constituencies, including the results officially declared, the BJP in 69, the Janata Dal in 56, and the CPI-M in 24 parliamentary constituencies.

### Official Results for 295 Seats

*BK2711094289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0930 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] Here is the latest overall tally for the Lok Sabha:

Total seats: 543;

Elections held: 525;
Results declared: 295.

Party position:
Congress-I—130;
Bharatiya Janata Party—62;
Janata Dal—61;
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham—11;
Communist Party of India-Marxist—8;
Communist Party of India—5;
National Conference—3;
Revolutionary Socialist Party—2;
Congress-S—1;
Telugu Desam Party—1;
Independents and others—11.

### Andhra Pradesh Chief Resigns

*BK2711061589 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 0600 GMT 27 Nov 89*

["Special election bulletin"]

[Text] The chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, has submitted his resignation to the governor, Ms Kumudben Joshi. He has also requested the governor to dissolve the state assembly. Our Hyderabad news desk reports that Mr Rao's decision comes in the wake of the Congress-I winning the majority of seats in the assembly elections.

### BJP President Warns of Communist Participation

*BK2511115989 Hong Kong AFP in English 1128 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 25 (AFP)—India's most powerful right-wing party announced Saturday that it would not support any opposition government which includes the communists. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President L.K. Advani launched his party's strongest attack in many years on Indian communists, branding them "the Indian arm of a foreign movement."

Mr. Advani told a news conference here that India's communist parties were trying to "get a foothold" in a new federal government if the opposition routed Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in general elections.

He warned that "everything would be at stake" if the communists were included in a government formed at the Centre by the National Front, the main opposition alliance challenging the Congress (I). "The whole structure, our parliamentary democracy, the foreign policy, the decentaralisation of powers, everything would be at stake," he said.

Mr. Advani's statement came amid increasing speculation that the country was heading for a hung parliament where the communists or the BJP might be expected to play a crucial role in helping to form a new government. Both the groupings are expected to get at least 50 parliament seats each.

News reports have suggested that the pro-Moscow Communist Party of India (CPI) and the more powerful Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI (M)] might support or take part in a future opposition-controlled federal government. But both staunchly secular communist parties have sworn not to take part in any government that included the BJP because of its alleged pro-Hindu stance.

Mr. Advani, 62, charged the CPI (M), which rules two Indian states, with having tried to divide the opposition during the election run-up by repeatedly attacking the BJP as communal.

"Now that the poll campaign is over, we would like to place before the people our evaluation of the communist parties, and affirm that the BJP shall not support any government that includes the communists," he said.

In a separate statement, the BJP leader accused the communists of having "always worked against the national interests and have done their best to help the corrupt ruling party in every possible way."

"We consider communists and communism as wholly irrelevant to India and indeed to the whole world," it added. "There was a time when the spectre of communism haunted the world. Now only the corpse of a universally discredited ideology remains."

The BJP, founded in 1951, was previously known as the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS). The BJS merged into the Janata Party in 1977 when it formed a government at the centre that remained in power for some two years. The BJP, as the party named itself in 1980, claims a cadre strength of 3.5 million.

### BJP Head Rules Out Coalition With Congress-I

*BK2711103389 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi 1015 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] The general secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP], Mr K.L. Sharma, has said that his party will not join the Congress-I in forming a government at any cost. Talking to newsmen, he clarified that the BJP will also not support the Congress-I even from outside [the government].

Mr Sharma said that if the communists join a National Front-led coalition government, his party will in no way join the government. He, however, added that as long as the Congress-I is kept out of power, the possibility of his party supporting a National Front-led government from the outside cannot be ruled out. The general secretary said, however, that this will depend greatly on what the Janata Dal proposes to his party and what kind of support it needs from the BJP.

### Gandhi Assails Bhutto for Interference on Shrine

*BK2311085889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has accused the Pakistani Government of abiding and abetting terrorists to embarrass and harass India. Addressing a public meeting at Belgaum in Karnataka yesterday, he criticized Pakistan's prime minister, Mrs Benazir Bhutto, for interfering in the internal affairs of India on the Ram Janma Bhoomi [sacred site claimed by Hindus as a shrine and Muslims as a mosque] issue. Mr Gandhi said the Center would abide by the decision of the courts for resolving Babri Masjid-Ram Janma Bhoomi issue.

## Iran

### President's Speech on Khomeyni's Character

*LD2311143489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0933 GMT 19 Nov 89*

[Speech by President Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani delivered at the congress on the appraisal of Imam Khomeyni's character on 5 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] Our thanks are due to the Women's Society which has organized this congress to set off a debate on an issue which the world is curious about. [passage omitted] Speaking as a Muslim who is interested in and familiar with political issues of the world, Imam's [Khomeyni's] deeds are indeed very important. Of course, everyone will analyze that issue according to his own viewpoint. The imam was able to execute seemingly impossible tasks. In my short discussion today, I will attempt to provide a key for entry into the general debate. I am not aware whether the issues for my discussion have been debated elsewhere or not; these issues are ones which I personally believe in. However, I will briefly put forward my own opinion about the appraisal of the personality of his holiness the imam. The deeds are indeed very significant.

That the imam succeeded in giving a new lease on life to Qom religious seminaries—even before starting his movement—by injecting ethics, science, philosophy, and mysticism into seminaries, something that cannot be found throughout the history of Shiite clergy, this is a particular dimension for those interested in the analysis of religious seminaries; so that they may see exactly what the imam did to the seminaries.

That the imam succeeded in putting an end to Islam's isolation—or according to imam's own interpretation made in a speech of his which was just read out before my remarks, Islam was brought out of graveyards and transferred to society's management centers where Islam belongs—this is one of miracles of history which has not happened since the time of the prophet and the early days of Islam. The fact that in the age of space, missiles, and atoms, Islam has appeared as a system with the ability to manage the society, and that Islam, under the shadow of the imam, was able to show its might, these were all great achievements.

That the imam was able to cut off the inauspicious hands of the Pahlavi octapus that had besieged Iranian people, and that everyone thought was going to be here forever, is something that sociologists and politicians must find out more about. That the imam was able to break the so-called magnanimity of arrogance and rid the nations from this jinx which made them think that one cannot confront the superpowers, and from this thought that we would return to where we started from because of the presence of hands of superpowers everywhere—a thought that was imposed on nations and had rendered nations weak and desperate—this was indeed a great task in our contemporary history; a task that involved the imam's making superpowers surrounded in several instances. Without this task, nations would still have felt weak and belittled for many years to come, with the imaginary thought that superpowers have superhuman powers. The nations would then have remained in the same dead end situation as before.

The fact that the imam opened new doors in interpreting Islamic and jurisprudential issues and elucidating Islamic sciences, and opened many eyes and removed many layers of dust from the brilliant face of Islam, and opened a new path before the scholars and young seminarists, introduced a new religious judgment in Islamic jurisprudence, the value of this work is extremely important and historic. Those who study Islam, the Islamicists, should think about this aspect and explain it.

The fact that the imam single-handely—when I say single-handedly I am referring to abroad, but of course at home he enjoyed the amazing support of the people—for a period of 10 or 15 years recognized different conspiracies, exposed them and neutralized them, and emerged victorious from any conspiracy was an amazing historic fact, the like of which we cannot find in history. You reporters and scholars in particular should look at the revolutions of recent centuries; you can see that these revolutions fell into a new trap after their victory and were weakened and diverted from their course.

The fact that the imam demonstrated it is possible to stand on one's own feet outside the scope of the two superpowers with the policy of neither East nor West, and that there is no necessity to follow either East or West in one's revolution smashed the analyses of contemporary analysts, compiled over scores of years, who thought that the roots of the revolution were either in the East or in the West, and that even if they start from the people they will eventually turn to the East or to the West. However, the 10 years in the life of the imam after the revolution proved that it was not as they thought.

Finally, the fact that despite all that propaganda, the imam succeeded in penetrating to the depths of the villages and forests of the remote continents of the world

and, contrary to the wishes of those who spread the propaganda of world arrogance, to enter the hearts of truth-loving human beings and bring the entire world under the influence of his character, to a lesser or greater degree—the degree of it is not important, the fact itself is of great importance—is also one of the miracles of our contemporary history. It is possible that in contemporary history, you will not find another example where those who spread propaganda have spoken or written and propagandized against any other person as much as they did in the case of the imam. It is also possible that you will not find another example where they suffered defeat to the same extent, despite all their propaganda, and failed to prevent the effulgence of light. [passage omitted]

As one of the persons who is completely familiar with the thoughts of the imam, with the character of the imam, with the life of the imam, and with the history of at least the second half of the life of the imam, from about the year 35 [the Iranian year starting on 21 March 1956] up to the present, I am one of those people who knew the imam, and as a result of the contacts we had with him in connection with political, jurisprudential, scientific, and moral issues, his life was the source of scrutiny and study for me. I think the key to the understanding of that exceptional personality should be provided in this short discussion which I wish to undertake now; at least, one of the keys, one major or maybe mother key which may open many of the locks that are on the dimensions of his existence.

The imam had expertise in a few branches of learning. Many people have expertise in those branches. This was not something unique to him. One of the branches was the science of jurisprudence. [passage omitted] The imam had this expertise and everyone admits this. Among the present jurists, seminarists, scholars, and 'ulema you will not find anyone who says the imam was lacking in learning. He is definitely regarded as a first rank scholar; either the foremost scholar or one of the foremost scholars of his age. Many regard him as the best jurist and others regard him as being as good as the others put together. There are, in fact, very few who may regard him as a person of secondary importance.

The second branch of learning in which he was an expert was philosophy, but this was something which he did not reveal very much. During the period of his youth when he could set forth his philosophical ideas in the Qom religious seminary, philosophy was entangled with many difficult political problems, it was under the pressure of deviated thoughts, and the vast ocean of his knowledge in philosophy was not revealed to the seminarists. Of course, there were a few people who benefited from his learning but it was not widespread and we are sorry that this dimension of Khomeyni's life has remained hidden. In our view, he was foremost in philosophy; we believe we have not had anyone like him and even now we do not have one like him among the living philosophers. However, I did say that this aspect of his life is not very clear to the seminarists who should be the judges of these issues.

Another branch in which he was in the forefront and we have not seen anyone like him in the world is the issue of mysticism. Mysticism is a special topic and one cannot describe it by using words, definitions, articles, and speeches. Other sciences can be talked about; mysticism is something to be experienced. In the case of other things, one should understand and describe them. In the case of mysticism, one should achieve that level and should be immersed in it. So long as you do not get immersed, in it you cannot understand it as it is. Those who reach the height of mystic knowledge regard many other issues as veils, issues such as science and many other topics which are regarded as a distinction by all of us; for them these are mere veils. The imam, due to the great talent that he possessed and to a great master that he had, according to those who knew the imam and his master well, they say that the imam advanced well above his master due to his special personal talents. He went a few stages above his master in mysticism, and this can be seen from his works.

On the rest of the issues such as general knowledge and diverse studies and the like, he was the same as others, and there may be many whose general knowledge on various issues may be grater than that of the imam.

Think of these three areas: jurisprudence, philosophy, and mysticism. There may be other people in the world today and there have been some in the past who have been experts in thse three fields to some extent. However, the imam had special capacities and that was something different. [passage omitted]

Alongside these, the imam did something special during the period of his seclusion. A period of time was imposed on the imam, a period of seclusion, and normally for such persons, this becomes a constructive period. From about the year 25 [Iranian year starting on 21 March 1946] onwards, certain conditions arose in the Qom religious seminary that force him into seclusion and forced him to stay in his own house for a number of years. That occurence was one of the reasons for the concealment of his philosophical dimension. During that period, he spent a great deal of time on studing morals; he made a profound study of Islamic morals and became an expert, and for a time he was a professor of morals in the seminary. Those who have experienced the lessons of the imam on morals during that period are still benefiting from that experience, although it was many years ago.

This combination has produced an exceptional human being. Another point that is interesting to us is that this combination of jurisprudence, philosophy, mysticism, and morals in which the imam was an expert, morals in its scientific dimension, was poured into a very receptive recepticle and produced an exceptional being which was the imam. [passage omitted]

This combination is not a combination that can be defeated. A person who has correctly understood the world, God, afterlife, mankind, death, purgatory, heaven, hell, the day of judgment, and so forth through

philosophy and who has felt them through mysticism and who has defined his path through jurisprudence and who has purified himself through morals and who understands world issues through his general knowledge, such a person is an invincible and powerful person, and whatever he starts he will pursue steadfastly. Either he does not start something, or if he starts it he will remain firm. [passage omitted] Due to his knowledge of God and of men, he will always see God on his side and he will never be afraid of human beings. He will never compare God's power with man's power. He regards the performance of his duty as being above anything else.

We, too, sometimes mention these things in a formal way. Most of the learned people and those who have worked in these fields can also say these things. However, talking is one thing; achieving those things is another. There is a great difference between a person who has felt these things, who believes these things, who feels these things as part of his being, who is guided towards his goal by an inner compulsion, and one who talks about these issues and deals with them as a formula.

If these various dimensions of the life of the imam to which I referred—and all of them can be achieved by talented individuals—if any other person achieves these things in our history, he too can become such a character. Now, frequently success is achieved that is something else, and history has shown that such individuals are rare and that not many such individuals are produced.

This character of the imam that I have portrayed for you is a character that I have experienced myself, as a pupil who for some 15 years benefitted from his lessons—either formal or informal lessons—and benefitted from his holy breath and understood these things from his being. Later, in the field of action and in the field of struggle, we noticed that what we had seen in him also was true in practice. Such a person as he was bestowed upon humanity by God at this historical juncture, and humanity made use of this source of light to come extent. A sun like him shone in the contemporary world where the whole world has been turned into a single house, when the borders can no longer separate individuals and nations from one another, when ideas can no longer be imprisoned within borders. Such a light has shone in our contemporary world as God's proof.

The imam performed his task and left us. He carried out his duties to the utmost, and in the last days of his life, he smoothed the difficulties which he felt might block the path of his revolution; he showed the path, he clarified the false paths, and defined the true path. And with the torch that we are now bearing in our hands, this torch has its roots in the Koran and in Islamic teaching and has been raised by the hand of a worthy individual and has assumed great brightness. This congress can be the first congress which should spread the light of this torch to places which are in need of this light, and you should make clear the character of the imam through the understandings and interpretations of different individuals. God willing, we will be able to safeguard this divine gift for future generations. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

## President Delivers 17 Nov Friday Prayers Sermon

*LD2611030389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1120 GMT 17 Nov 89*

[Excerpts] [Koranic verse omitted] My first sermon today is an extension of my previous discourse on Islam as a way of life, which I will deliver in the form of a clause in the discourse on social justice in terms of arrogance and meekness, so as to prevent any deviation in our nation's thoughts from life and character-building. There are a few Koranic verses in this regard, and as Muslims and in order to obey God, we are obliged to organize our way of life so as to be the forerunners among all nations and schools of thought in the world without lagging behind the rest of the world in material terms. The one or two Koranic verses in this regard connote that Islam should not be considered a religion exclusive to our afterlife which does not concern our world, or that Islam is a complex and enigmatic program that is not fully comprehensible. However, I have explained that the ingenuity of Islam lies in the fact that it contains comprehensible issues for all, as long as we do not try to make enigmas out of them.

As I have explained in one or two of my sermons, Islam has given consideration to man's natural and intellectual needs. Islam does not in anyway neglect man's natural needs. One of these sermons was on how we have been enjoined to make use of the earth's natural resources toward the betterment of people's lives. [passage omitted]

Today I am going to elucidate this subject because our society has arrived at a juncture necessitating such a discourse. [passage omitted] To work, produce, and reap the fruits of production can be discussed in three stages, or maybe four. The first is on the principle of production and work. The second concerns reaping the fruits of work, production, and nature. The third, the limitations involved. [passage omitted]

At this point I refer to a verse on the Koranic instruction—on which our prophet's, imams', and dignatories' conduct was based—in accordance with which there are no limits to work and production. The more one takes advantage of the natural resources in the lives of human beings, the better it is. We do not reproach one who spends much time devoting all his capability toward taking advantage of natural resources for society. Now if this is done for the sake of God and with understanding, with the understanding that the result of his work is used in the Islamic society toward the betterment of the people's lives, the society, Islam and the seminary, then it is considered a lofty act of worship of a very high degree. If such is not the motive of that being, and the act is done merely to better one's own life and manage one's family, with totally materialistic aims, even then it is

desirable, unless some corruption emanates from it, which is another discourse altogether.

Therefore, those whose understanding of religion is that religion does not give serious consideration to production and proliferation of society's wealth, and assume that worship and closeness to God—which is the essence of religion—concern only those who devote themselves to theological books, mosques, places of worship, and religious and spiritual tasks, hence separating this issue from Islam, deviate from the normal course.

This deviation which has existed and perhaps up to now had adverse affects on many individuals' thoughts to the extent that when an individual looks at an idle worshipper and then looks at an active and strong individual who endeavors hard in the field of production, then inadvertently believes that the former has an Islamic appearance and the latter a worldly one. This is not the case. We should embark on this field as an obligation, and if we view Islam in that other way, then we have only viewed it with one eye. [passage omitted]

If the real Islamic culture pertaining to work and effort, genuine work, existed in our society we would have been in a much better situation. One thing that I consider to be one of the most fundamental perversions in our society is that perhaps among our clerics, religious figures, theologians and so-called psuedo-theologians, and committed and religious strata idleness and ineptitude are not considered un-Islamic qualities. I mean that today, after 10 years since the revolution, when one looks at the people's culture, or the people's interpretation of it, which has become engrained in them, one sees that on looking at an idle person—that is, one who for whom idleness is a choice and not an imposition—the Iranian people do not see it as an un-Islamic condition, but as an unnatural condition, a condition of indifference to material things.

Many things have been set in our imagination that, at first glance, one thinks unimportant and merely a way of thinking, but when one delves deeply into their roots, analyzes them, and looks at their impact on society, then one notices the dangers—one being that for us an Islamic viewpoint precludes economy or life. These exist. When, for example, they see an idle person in society, they say that he is useless and unable to take care of his life or family. They look at him from such an angle. But from an Islamic angle—whether he is or is not a good Muslim—they assume that Islam does not give consideration to such rationalities, and that such things are outside of it, hence leaving it in the hands of the people themselves. This is not so.

After all, the degree of a Muslim person's honor and integrity is dependent upon the degree of influence and effect that he leaves on the society he lives in. Therefore, it is possible that in initial analysis when one sees the word practice in the Koran or in the tradition, the majority of our orators and analysts, or perhaps the general culture of our religious forums, interpret the word practice as meaning worship, such as prayers, fasting, hajj, and similar things. When the Koran says a human is nothing but what he strives for, the first thing that comes to mind, as stated in books, is that striving implies deeds aimed at the other eternal world—afterlife [akherat]—or worship. When it is said that one will see the consequences of his deeds, everyone thinks that such consequences will be seen in the afterlife.

In the Koran and the tradition, or in the interpretations by our religious intellectual mentors, the Arabic word 'amal basically means work. 'Amal on the other hand means worker, as the Arabs call it. When one encounters this word in religious contexts, the initial understanding is that it means work related to worship. However, this is a kind of deviation which has swept Islamic society aside from the arena of life competitions, and which has drawn blasphemy and arrogance into the arena. If today we see that the condition of Muslims in the world is not that good, and that in many places such as Africa one sees that a Christian minority possesses wealth as well as the keys to the management and rule over the society. [sentence as heard] In Lebanon, which you know, read, and hear a lot about, it is through such interpretations that the Muslim majority has been left outside the arena until now, while the Christian minority has been on top. Similar situations may be found in numerous other places. [passage omitted]

It might be true that in our Islamic society a lot of people believe and respect the spirit of work; however, it must be noted that such work is itself worship. It must be noted that work is indeed the Islamic dimension of life itself; it is God's will. When one puts on one's work overall and enters a factory or some other work place, one should feel that one is engaged in the act of worship, as in the mosque. If one day such a thing becomes prevelant in our society, then we will be Muslims with true Islamic dimensions. Not that we are not Muslims no, but we are one-dimensional. [passage omitted]

Really one must weep blood when one lives in a society where Islam, the society's needs, and the reigning conditions demand work from him, but the members of that society imagine that work merely means sitting behind a desk. This problem is a serious and deep-rooted one in our society. We must somehow remedy that problem. Part of the problem should be addressed through Islam itself, and part of it is to do with the colonial culture that has been imposed on us and has brought us up like this. Even in our intellectual circles, where many people do not have much contact with Islam anyway, such a mode of thought dominates. This makes our task difficult. In our country a lot of talent and abilities are eaten up by works such as commerce and brokerage, while a lot of proud productive works are left alone, and this is the worst kind of disease we suffer from.

We now see that a lot of youth, when asked why they are selling cigarettes or are merely involved in dealing in foreign exchange market, they reply that it is because they are unemployed. When the next question is posed,

why could you not work as a construction worker, or agricultural worker, or in a workshop with a wrench in your hands, they have no proper reply. Is it true to say that the 2 million Afghan refugees who have come to our country cannot find work? You can see that all of them have work. Our employers perhaps prefer the Afghan workers to our own, because they are prepared to carry out such work, but our own youth do not think that way. This is indeed murderously wrong, as it severely disrupts the economic cycle. Of course, there may be other factors involved, such as proper pay and working conditions and other factors. This means that we should create work conditions in such a way that they correspond to our conditions of culture and livelihood.

I do not seek to blame everything on the youth. I merely wish to say that such culture does not exist in our country, and we do not think like that. Our religion does not dictate such conditions to us. 'Ali Ibn-Abi Taleb [the first Shiite imam], prior to taking over his seat as the ruler of society, used to spend most of his time in palm groves and on farms, digging waterways, irrigating, farming, and doing similar things that a proper practical farmer—as distinct from a landowner—engages in. [passage omitted] All this reveals to us what Islamic culture has been and what we now have in our society.

When the prophet kisses the hand of a worker at a mosque in full view of the public, does that mean that he did not respect the courageous soldiers returning from the war front? Does that mean that he did not respect those strugglers who spent all their days on the front? It is obvious that the struggler who takes his life into his hands for Islam enjoys a high status. However, in an effort to stabilize the cult of labor in society the prophet kissed the coarse hands of a worker. [passage omitted]

That example teaches us a great deal. Why should we be like this—that even when the majority of our people want to work they swing to services and staff occupations? This is unfortunately how our position is today. Our university graduates, those who used to work like ordinary workers in factories when living abroad, find no work attractive if it is below the ministerial, vice ministerial, directorate general, and staff positions. Abroad they like working as laborers, but not at home. The problem lies with our society, our culture, our environment; we are brought up in the wrong way. We must remove this obstacle.

If we intend to export our revolution we cannot do so with mere words; it is a mistake to think otherwise. Propaganda has limited efficacy; what is needed is practicality. [passage omitted]

We must build a society that, when looked at from outside, looks capable of delivering to humanity a model for emulation—a free, independent, and prosperous society. If we do so Islam will spread rapidly. If we imagine that with the existing way of working, with the existing level of production, with the existing level of work achieved, with the existing economic dependence, and with the existing multitude of problems afflicting our society we can be a model for other societies, then we are wrong.

Now you see that the Eastern bloc, Marxism, has suddenly collapsed. Why did it happen? The iron walls were slightly broken and the curtains were drawn back. Then the people in the Eastern bloc were able to see the outside world beyond the iron curtain. Also the world began to look at the Eastern bloc. It was then learned that a school, which for the past 70 to 80 years has been the standard bearer of a campaign in the world carrying the banner of revolution, a school whose adherents, the communist party, was set up in most countries as the progressive element and whose main aim was export of revolution by preaching internationalism. [sentence as heard] But because their economy was not sound, because they had no sound backing for export of revolution and because compared to others the standard of their life was not high, suddenly all the propaganda of many decades collapsed. [passage omitted]

In any case, the prevailing situation among us is not acceptable, this trend of thought among Muslims—our youth, educated people, theologians. We must take life very seriously, just as the prophet 'Ali Ibn-Abu-Talib, Imam Sadeq, and Imam Baqir did, and they worked hard, too. The essence of life is work. I am not saying that the others do not work; those who study or teach are all working. However, the attitude in our country is such that if one does not make it to the university or fails the university entrance competition, and also fails to find a good job, then he presumes he should remain unemployed. This is not right. I am not saying that the university lecturer should now pick up a shovel. No! He should remain where he is and continue his job which is a very valuable and productive one. A manager who is good at managing should certainly do well in his management task. This is not the point. The point is that the honor and dignity of work, that the worth and merit of work, whatever the work may be, should be established in our society. If this happens, then those parasitic occupations, those illusive and false occuaptions, would be eliminated.

Now that we have an unhealthy economy in our country, we see how people have turned to occupations such as brokerage, speculation, and acting as middlemen—turning all our capabilities and assets to such usage. People no longer pursue productive occupations; it is not because productive work involves complex bureacracy: All works involve this. Commercial work, too, involves such complexities. At present, exports and imports are no less complex than agriculture and production, but even more so. Rather, it is that prevailing attitude that leads them to this point. [passage omitted]

In our sick society, or any sick society like ours, there is the danger of pursuing corrupt paths, as sween in our society. In any case, I believe that to strengthen Islam, spread the revolution, turn our society into a role model, and glorify

Islamic societies is to eliminate our dependence on blasphemous and arrogant societies, and to create an independent society from within ourselves; this is not possible without productive work. [crowd chants support]

As the official responsible for the country's executive matters, I say the government is now dutybound to encourage productive occupations. The Ministry of Mines and Metals has announced that the country's mines are open to investment. The country's wealthy individuals should abstain from spending their money in speculation, brokerage, creating black markets, hoarding, and so on. Instead they should go into mining, and whatever they extract is certainly permissable. Society can use it and they can use it.

I am not saying there should not be a services sector, since under the previous regime they also engaged in trading, but trade of another nature. Go and pursue such occupations. The Ministry of Agriculture has called on everyone to embark on land and water investment. The same has been announced by the ministers of industries. There are, however, certain problems present which we will remove. Trade is not exempt from problems either. No occupation is exempt from problems, but those occupations which please God and are effectual and constructive are a source of glory to human beings. I say to the work force, as Muslims, do not imagine that manual work carried out by laborers is below you. No work is below a human being. [passage omitted]

Praise be to God, we have everything in this country. Everything exists in this land of the lord of the age. The problem lies elsewhere, and God willing, we will eliminate those psychological problems, and reform our attitude. The government will also facilitate the path of work for people and the Majlis will eliminate bureacratic regulations. God willing, under the shadow of Islam, this revolution, and the guidelines of our great demised imam, we should be able to present an example and a model to our society. In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

### Emani-Kashani Delivers Arabic Friday Prayers

*NC2611144389 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Friday prayers sermon delivered by Ayatollah Emami-Khashani on 24 November; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Peace be upon Muslim brothers and sisters all over the world. I commend you to obey God and to refrain from what God has forbidden. This week is the week of the mobilization of the oppressed and the week of the 20-million strong Islamic Army. One of the blessings of the Islamic revolution in Iran is the change that has taken place in the hearts of our youth, whose hearts and minds are now overflowing with belief, love, sacrifice, and martyrdom. The youth had wanted to live in a morally corrupt atmosphere during the defunct monarchical regime. The more morally and sexually corrupt movies were, the greater was the demand for them. Even though the number of bars, dens of corruption and debauchery, was increasing daily, they could not not satisfy the needs of the youth who were thirsty for [word indistinct].

It is in such a country that a divine leader who relied on God breathed new life into the hearts of our youth. He revived their dead hearts and replaced material values with sublime divine ones. [passage omitted]

The forces of the oppressed are studying in Iran's Islamic school, which is one of the lasting achievements of the founder of the Islamic Republic in that he had taught all to [words indistinct] before Almighty God. God's book, the Holy Koran, is taught in such a school. The teacher there is the noble prophet, may God's peace and blessings be upon him and on his family. Such schools should be set up all over the Islamic world so that youth can learn glory and Islamic enthusiasm.

Muslim brothers and sisters: What is painful for us and for Islam is to see the Zionist enemy creating difficulties and suffering for Palestinian and Lebanese Muslims and Muslims in other Islamic countries. The Islamic Republic protects the oppressed and [word indistinct] peoples and believes that support for the oppressed was ordered by God as the Almighty said: If ye will aid the cause of God, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly. [Koranic verse]

In conclusion, I commend you, brothers and sisters, to fear God and to refrain from what God has forbidden. God's peace and mercy be upon you. [passage omitted]

### Shevardnadze Message to Velayati on Lebanon

*LD2411180889 Tehran IRNA in English 1636 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 24, IRNA—In a message to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today, his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze said that all countries for whom Lebanon's fate at this crucial juncture is important should try to maintain its territorial integrity and unity.

The message was submitted to the Foreign Ministry's director general for East European affairs by Soviet Ambassador Vladimir V. Gudev.

Lebanon plunged into a new crisis last Wednesday [22 November] when Christian President-Elect Rene Mu'awwad was killed in a bomb explosion.

### Larijani on East Europe, Soviet Developments

*NC2411215589 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1505 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Interview with Dr Mohammad Javad Larijani, adviser to the foreign minister, by unidentified correspondent from the "Weekly Report" program—recorded]

[Correspondent] Dr Larijani, thank you for appearing on the "Weekly Report" program. Here is my first question: How do you assess the developments in the East bloc?

[Larijani] In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. Profound changes have taken place and are taking place in the East bloc and in Eastern Europe; that is, in the world of Marxism and communism. The effects of these developments are not limited to Eastern Europe; they will have an impact on world politics. Of course these developments began in Russia. Just as the center and main base of Marxism around the world was the Soviet Union, these developments started with the initiatives that came to be known as perestroyka. Gorbachev, who is the main engineer of these developments, has worked and is working on three fronts simultaneously. Perestroyka is usually limited to economic developments and reforms. Ideologically, it inflicts the heaviest blow on Marxism. The second front is the social and political freedoms known as glasnost. Intellectuals and authors were given the freedom to write various articles. The political atmosphere changed, and for the first time we witnessed phenomena unprecedented in the history of Marxism and communism in the Soviet Union.

However, there is a third front that is more important than the other two on the international scene, and this is what has come to be known as the new thinking, which propounds new ideas in international relations. Gorbachev has had greater success in this field than he has had in perestroyka and glasnost. Gorbachev has been able to alter the trend of international developments to the benefit of the Soviet Union.

We should not think that if Marxism has collapsed as an ideology in communist countries, then this means that the Soviet Union's significance on the international scene has diminished. On the contrary, the Soviet Union has taken the initiative on the international scene and especially in Europe. Europe is moving toward becoming a single house, and the Soviet Union is a part of this house. If there is no room in this house, then something should be done. This is actually the meaning of all these developments.

[Correspondent] The message that his eminence the imam, may his soul be sanctified, sent to Gorbachev last year foresaw today's developments. Please comment on this, as you were a member of the delegation that delivered the message to Gorbachev.

[Larijani] Of course, there are many interesting, precise, and farsighted points in that message. There are two important points in the message that concern the topic under discussion. The first point was the forecast that Gorbachev had dealt a final blow to Marxism, that we would witness the complete death of this way of thinking, and that from now on Marxism would only be found in museums. This is clearly stated in the message of his eminence the imam, may his soul be sanctified.

There is another important point in the message, which is that we should not emerge from one abyss to fall into another. Even though we are witnessing the last days of Marxism, nevertheless this does not mean that materialism, Western materialism, should replace Marxism. What is important is that materialism is also doomed.

Today we must pay attention to spirituality and divine thought. This forecast by the imam is very significant in view of the events that are taking place in the world. We should say that the future is one where divine thoughts will be seen as mankind's only hope for salvation.

Today we are witnessing the death of Marxism, and in the future we will witness the death of materialism in general.

[Correspondent] I thank you for your remarks and for your presence on this program.

[Larijani] Thank you.

### Soviet Jews Said To Travel to Israel Via Cairo

*NC2111192089 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] The Egyptian newspaper AL-SHA'B disclosed in today's edition that Cairo International Airport has been turned into a station for transporting Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine. The paper cites eyewitnesses as saying that a Soviet flight bound for Cairo carried a large number of Soviet Jews who, after arriving at Cairo Airport, got into private vehicles which transported to them to the Sinai Desert and from there to occupied Palestine.

AL-SHA'B added that more than 1,000 Soviet Jews have arrived in Israel via this route.

### Cultural Agreement Signed With USSR

*LD1611092189 Tehran IRNA in English 1432 GMT 15 Nov 89*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 15, IRNA—Iran and the Soviet Union have signed a 33-point agreement for cultural exchanges in the areas of arts, literature, sports, journalism and mass media and architectural technology, according to the Wednesday [15 November] issue of the Persian daily KAYHAN. The two countries will exchange information on various areas of art, and allow writers, journalists and mediamen to exchange visits.

The agreement also calls for exchange of Islamic scholars and professional periodicals in various areas of human knowledge.

Among other things, it anticipates holding of Soviet and Iranian film festivals in both countries.

The two countries have also decided to exchange books and literary works, and will participate in international literary seminars in Iran and the Soviet Union. In addition the agreement calls for exchange of expertise in the area of urban planning and architecture, and provides for tourism facilities. Cultural festivals to be held

in the two countries on the basis of the agreement will be subject to the regulations of the host country.

### Further Details on Agreement

*NC2311213389 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 15 Nov 89 p 18*

[Text] Exchange visits by artists, composers, authors, poets, Islamic scholars, architects, and film producers, the creation of the necessary facilities for special exhibitions in various cultural fields, exchange visits by traditional architects, the publication and exchange of books, the holding of film festivals, the exchange of films for various cultural and educational festivals, the creation of the necessary facilities for the exchange of films, and the expansion of tourism are among the points agreed on in the 1989-90 cultural agreement between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet Union.

On the basis of reports made available to the newspaper by the domestic press section of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, this cultural agreement has 33 articles and concerns various cultural fields such as literature, music, architecture, books, cinema, radio, television, and press.

In the field of music, the two countries have agreed to exchange delegations of composers on the basis of a program which will be agreed upon in advance. Music organizations in Iran and the Soviet composers union will also regularly exchange various kinds of music related material such as observations, notes, sheet music, information, and so on.

The two countries have agreed to exchange three-member delegations of authors on the basis of agreements between appropriate organizations and to invite each other's representatives to participate in international cultural gatherings in both countries.

In the cinematic field it was agreed that an Iranian film week will be held in the Soviet Union every year and a Soviet film week be held in Iran. On the same basis the Soviet Union will send films to the International Dawn Festival, the International Festival for Educational Films, and other international film festivals held in Iran, and a delegation of Iranian cinematographers will be sent to the Soviet Union to participate in international film festivals where Iranian films will also be screened. On the basis of another article, Iran will send films and three-member delegations of cinematographers to participate in the 7-day 16th International Moscow Film Festival in 1989. The creation of the necessary facilities for exchanging films on the basis of agreements between the relevant organizations, as well as the exchange of books and publications on films and theater, constitutes another part of the agreement between the two countries.

On the publication and exchange of books, the two countries will encourage the consolidation and expansion of contacts between experts in book publications. The exchange of representatives from the field of publishing and the selection of literature for possible translation will also be encouraged. Also, the Ministry of Islamic Guidance and the Soviet State Committee for Publications will, after reaching an agreement, organize reciprocal book exhibitions. Furthermore, the National Library of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet State Library (V.I. Lenin) will activate their relations in the field of exchanging books and periodicals as well as in exchanging scientific book exhibitions.

The Tehran University Central Library and the Scientific Library of Moscow State University will also resume the exchange of books.

On the basis of another agreement, national libraries, the Central Bank, and the Statistics Center of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the one hand, and the Lenin state libraries and foreign literature libraries of the Soviet Union on the other, will exchange lists, catalogues, and related books on a regular basis. Also, books will be exchanged between the Soviet State Library for Foreign Literature and the Islamic Guidance Cultural-Educational Center. The creation of mutual facilities for the offering and sale of books on the basis on agreements reached between state organs is also included in the agreement.

The agreement reached on the mass media contains provision for the following: the exchange of news on sessions, conferences, and international seminars concerning the exchange of information; the exchange of information between the Central News Unit and the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran and NOVOSTI news agency and Soviet radio and television; the holding of joint mobile photo exhibitions; the continuation of cooperation between the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY (IRNA) and TASS concerning the exchange of bilateral information within the framework of the ASIA AND PACIFIC NEWS NETWORK on the basis of the existing agreement.

On the same basis, delegations of journalists of the two countries will exchange visits for business meetings and further acquaintance with each other's experience, and will extend the necessary facilities to journalists from both countries in carrying out interviews with officials of the two countries, as well as in other issues which are of interest to the journalists of both countries.

Among the other agreements reached between the two countries, the following can be listed: exchanging two- or three-member delegations of antiquities and restoration experts for a period of 10 days; facilitating contacts between Islamic and religious scholars of both countries and their participation in conferences, ceremonies, and international seminars; exchanging two- or three-member delegations of architects to become acquainted with each other's experiences in city building and architecture; holding architectural exhibitions and exchanging magazines and catalogues; sending traditional architects to renovate buildings that form part of

the cultural and architectural heritage of the Soviet Union's Asian areas; studying the establishment of a house of culture or a cultural center; holding talks between Tehran municipality delegations and the executive committee of Moscow in a bid to become acquainted with each other's experiences; exchanging sports delegations and teams; exchanging educational films; expanding tourism; facilitating visits by tourists to historic and religious centers; exchanging delegations between the Ministry of Islamic Guidance and the Council for Religious Affairs affiliated with the USSR Council of Ministers to study and hold talks on the expansion of relations. All the steps stipulated in this program will be implemented in accordance with the laws and regulations prevailing in the host countries.

### Trade Documents Signed With Soviet Union

*LD2411102989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] Today, at the end of the visit of the Soviet economic and technical delegation to our country, a note of understanding on cooperation was signed by the deputy minister of heavy industries of our country and the Soviet deputy minister of heavy machine building.

According to a report by our correspondent, the note of understanding covers cooperations between the two countries in the fields of projects on presses and heavy machinery, the implementation of projects for the construction of water and steam turbines, cooperation in the production of various types of electric motors, and in the manufacturing of different types of frieght cars and their export to the Soviet Union, the implementation of [words indistinct] semiheavy profiles and machine-making plant in Arak by the Soviet Union.

According to the same report, the list of the items to be imported and exported by the two countries have been exchanged between the two sides. During the next 2 months, the list of goods to be imported and exported by the two countries will be made clear. Also, a subsidiary note of understanding was signed by the deputy minister of mines and the Soviet deputy minister of heavy machine building on the construction of glass, cement, and rubber plants, and the purchase of machines for the manufacturing of corrogated cardboard.

### Soviet, U.S. Analysts Address Gulf Conference

*LD2111170689 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 21, IRNA—The first international Persian Gulf conference continued its work Tuesday with its three committees dealing with various political, economic, geographical, environmental and historical questions falling within their respective spheres.

The politico-strategic committee heard Soviet Union's V.V. Shostov read his article 'USSR and the West in the Persian Gulf in the 1980s'.

The article said the importance of the Persian Gulf for the Soviet Union is due to its 'geographical proximity' to the waterway and its 'policy of good-neighbourly relations.'

Moscow is ready to participate in any multilateral meet held by states having access to the Indian Ocean, in order to secure freedom of navigation in regional waters and to guarantee the sovereignty of littoral states over their coastal resources, it said.

American analyst Marvin G. Weinbaum thought that 'political, military and economic developments in the Persian Gulf littoral states are influenced by rivalries or cooperations between the two superpowers.'

In his address, Weinbaum also believed that the strategies of American and Russian policy-makers have their impacts on Persian Gulf states.

The 3-day conference, sponsored by the forum for political and international studies opened yesterday.

The Persian Gulf which divides the Iranian plateau from the Arabian Peninsula is a strategic waterway through which most of world's oil passes.

The whole northern part of the Persian Gulf from the Euphrates-Tigris estuary up to narrow opening of the Strait of Hormuz towards the high seas, is hemmed in by Islamic Iran, while its southern shores are dotted by the seven Arab states of Oman, UAE [United Arab Emirates], Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq.

### Foreign Ministry Official on Conference on Gulf

*NC2011075789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Nov 89*

[Text] Some 400 Iranian and foreign researchers are to participate in an international conference on the Persian Gulf opening in Tehran today.

The Central News Unit reports that in addition to 250 Iranian experts and scholars, about 150 foreign scholars from the Soviet Union, the FRG, America, Bangladesh, Canada, India, Lebanon, Britain, Yugoslavia, Japan, and China will attend the conference. During the 3-day conference, two roundtable discussions will focus on the topics of Resolution 598 and the Persian Gulf, and the mass media and the Persian Gulf.

Mr Maleki, head of the Foreign Ministry's political and international studies department, discussed the objectives behind this conference:

[Begin Maleki recording] The conference will focus on research on and analysis of the Persian Gulf as a geographic, political, cultural, and economic complex, mutual dependence, and the area's potential for cooperation. As you know, the theme of the conference is cooperation among nations and representatives from various Persian Gulf and other countries, as well as representatives from international organizations, have

come to Tehran for the conference. We hope that the conference will help the UN secretary general in the implementation of Article 8 of Resolution 598 which calls for the compilation of a security plan among the Persian Gulf countries. The secretary general has sent representatives to the conference.

Other issues such as the name of the Persian Gulf will also be discussed. We have set up an exhibition featuring our collection of historic maps and documents on the Persian Gulf dating back several thousand years. Some 140 articles on recent research on the Persian Gulf have been received by the conference. In addition, a series of publications on the Persian Gulf consisting of various books and articles from earlier seminars have been prepared.

I hope that the three committees of the conference—the Political-Strategic Committee, the Historic-Cultural-Legal Committee, and the committee on economic, geographic, and environmental issues—will facilitate discussion of all aspects and dimensions of the Persian Gulf problems and ultimately yield interesting new views and proposals for the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [end recording]

## Libyan Ordnance Official Arrives in Tehran

*NC2611072089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] Dr Fathi Shutwan, Libyan secretary of the People's Committee for Strategic Industries, arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of a delegation in order to participate in the second session of talks on Libyan-Iranian joint cooperation. Shutwan was welcomed by Heavy Industry Minister Mr Nezhad-Hoseynian.

During the course of his stay in Iran, the Libyan strategic industries secretary will meet with the ministers of heavy industry, industry, defense, and Armed Forces support, and with other officials to discuss topics of mutual interest.

The first joint meeting between the two countries was held in Tripoli last year.

## TEHRAN TIMES on Iraqi-Egyptian 'Conflict'

*NC2211111189 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 Nov 89 pp 2, 5*

[Editorial: "Iraq-Egypt Conflict a Predictable Case"]

[Text] Following the debate over the very high death toll of the Egyptian workers, the Cairo government has instructed its Baghdad ambassador to investigate the case. Reportedly over 100 bodies of Egyptian workers stationed in Iraq were flown to Cairo last October. The figure was only one dead during the same month last year.

The Egyptian daily AL-AKHBAR, reporting the deaths of over 1,000 Egyptian workers in Iraq, believes the death toll stands at a much higher figure.

The influx of the Egyptian workers into Iraq has its roots in the Iraqi attack of Iran in 1980. Severely suffering from an acute shortage of manpower in the first months of its aggression, Iraq turned to regimes such as Cairo's for help. Almost the entire Iraq workforce was engaged in the fronts against Iran.

The problem grew to the extent that Iraq had no resort other than to bringing in owrkers from other Arab countries to meet the needs of the behind-the-line factories.

Soldiers from Egypt, Jordan and Sudan, in large numbers, were also serving in the fronts against Iran which captured many POWs from these countries.

Following the 1988 ceasefire, sponsored by the United Nations, between Iraq and Iran, the former faced a severe problem in having to absorb a huge number of domestic work forces which had left jobs to join the fronts.

Steamrolled by increasing economic pressure and foreign debts, Iraq was as its tradition, chose to alienate the foreign workers including the Egyptians by way of coercion.

As far as Egypt is concerned the violent measures taken by Iraq to force foreign workers to leave the country only adds to the problems of the economically strapped regime in Cairo.

Mubarak's government just cannot afford to dole out the foreign currency earned by Egyptian workers in Iraq and elsewhere. Besides, given the ample aids provided to Iraq by Egypt during the war, the latter naturally expected Baghdad to always feel obliged towards it.

But Iraq has not only not shown any sense of appreciation but has virtually taken upon itself to do away with Egyptian workers by way of physical elimination.

The workers' mistreatment by Baghdad has caused such an uproar that 50 Egyptian poets have already announced they will not take part in an Iraqi-sponsored Arab poetry festival.

The present see-saw battle between Cairo and Baghdad is also at issue with the Arab Coopeation Council (formed in 1988 with Iraq, Egypt, North Yemen and Jordan) and threatens to be its first serious political problem. This council, as was quite predictable, was not destined to last long as the member countries are diametrically opposed in terms of many of their socio-political and economic factors.

Also both Egypt and Iraq have aspirations for Arab world leadership. This rivalry would not leave much room for political maneuvers in a small forum like the Arab Cooperation Council.

Beside the conflict over the Egyptian workers' treatment in Iraq the two countries are also at loggerheads over Egypt's exit from the Condor-2 Missile projects last year. The project was a joint venture involving Iraq, Egypt and Argentina. Some quarters, however, believe that the U.S. had a role to play in prodding Egypt to pull out of the project.

By and large the Egypt-Iraq conflict might take on a much deeper dimension. The question is now this: Will it, like always, be the power struggle among Arab governments that will have thefinal say in settling the Cairo-Baghdad problem?

### Arrest, Torture of Muslims in Egypt Detailed

*NC2511210089 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] The magazine AL-WAHDAH AL-ISLAMIYAH, mouthpiece of the Lebanese 'Ulema Grouping, has reported that a village close to the city of Asyut was recently the scene of clashes between Muslim demonstrators and the Egyptian regime's police forces. The magazine added that these clashes occurred on 19 November and said that eight Muslim demonstrators were injured when the police opened fire on them and used tear gas to disperse the demonstrations.

The magazine said that the demonstrations were held to protest the arrest of approximately 40 Muslims in August.

Meanwhile, the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Egypt has stated that the majority of the detainees are university professors, lawyers, and writers. The committee said that they were taken into custody because of their Islamic ideas and tendencies.

The committee's report referred to the torture carried out by the Egyptian regime's police officers and security operatives against the detainees in order to extract confessions from them. The reports said that the torture was so brutal that a number of the detainees died.

### Sri Lankan Minister Ends Visit; Memorandum Signed

*NC2111074889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] An economic memorandum of understanding worth $21.5 million was signed between Iran and Sri Lanka at the end of a 4-day visit to our country by Sri Lankan Transportation Minister Mr Mendis. Our correspondent reports that the Sri Lankan transportation minister, who had come to Iran to follow up the agreements reached during the Sri Lankan prime minister's visit to Tehran, left this morning after holding talks with our country's officials and signing the memorandum of understanding. He was seen off by Mr Nezhad-Hoseyniyan, minister of heavy industries.

Our correspondent interviewed Mr Nezhad-Hoseyniyan on the signing of the economic memorandum of understanding between Iran and Sri Lanka. We invite you to listen to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Nezhad-Hoseyniyan, what topics were discussed during your talks with the Sri Lankan transportation minister and what was the result of these talks?

[Nezhad-Hoseyniyan] In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. During the visit of his excellency the Sri Lankan prime minister to Iran, we agreed to continue talks with them on the sale of buses, Land Rover jeeps, and railcars. The visit by the Sri Lankan transportation minister was the result of that agreement. Mr Mendis visited our factories and held talks on the sale of this equipment.

[Correspondent] What ceiling was set for trade between the two countries and what items will be traded under the memorandum of understanding signed by you and Mr Mendis?

[Nezhad-Hoseyniyan] We have reached a definite agreement on the sale of 500 buses from the Iran Khodrow Company. This is worth $21.5 million. As for railcars and Land Rovers, more studies will be carried out and we may reach an agreement, God willing, during future meetings with officials of the companies involved. [end recording]

### Interior Minister Comments on Visit to Pakistan

*NC2211063489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] Interior Minister Mr Nuri returned to Tehran this morning. The Central News Unit reports that during his stay in Pakistan, Mr Nuri met with the Pakistani president, prime minister, foreign minister, and interior minister and exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. He also signed a memorandum of understanding which emphasized the need for expanding bilateral cooperation.

Upon his return to Tehran, the interior minister described his talks in Pakistan as very good and expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries will tighten control along Iran's eastern borders.

In an interview with our correspondent, Mr Nuri spoke about the outcome of his visit to Pakistan. We invite you to listen to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Nuri, in your talks with Pakistani officials, you discussed border and security matters and the type of economic relations our two neighboring countries can have. The two countries also focused their attention on the issue of drug smuggling and the fight against drug smugglers. What agreements were reached on this?

[Nuri] In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. During the visit to Pakistan, three working committees

were formed by the Iranian and Pakistani delegations. One of the committees discussed security issues, another focused on the fight against drugs, and the third committee studied various aspects of political-economic issues.

Our assessment of the trip is that there are many issues on which we and the Pakistani Government can agree and exchange information. We can have joint activities. There are various issues of concern to our two countries, especially in the border areas of Iran's Sistan va Baluchestan and Pakistan's Baluchistan, such as serious approach to drugs and smugglers. These are issues on which we have good agreement. They too want to fight drugs seriously and they have already started.

Our security committee discussed various issues related to border security and problems that criminals can cause in both countries, especially when they use one country as a refuge. Iran and Pakistan reached serious and comprehensive agreement on the extradition of criminals and their approach to criminals and fugitives. [end recording]

### Velayati Departs for Arab, African Tour 24 Nov

*NC2511070289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] Mr Velayati, foreign minister, left Tehran for Dar es Salaam, the Tanzanian capital, last night at the head of a delegation for a visit to some Arab, African countries in the Persian Gulf region.

The Central News Unit reports that during this trip, Foreign Minister Velayati will visit Tanzania, Zambia, Kenya, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and Oman. He will hold talks with high-level officials of these countries regarding bilateral relations and international issues.

### Security Council Sets Up Intelligence Council

*LD2511163489 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] The second meeting of the National Security Council convened under the chairmanship of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and with the participation of other members. In this meeting the formation of the Intelligence Council and the constitution of that council were approved.

Hojjat-e Eslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni and Hasan Rohani, the representatives of the esteemed leader; Messrs Yazdi, the head of the judiciary, Karrubi, the Majlis speaker, the chief of the joint command of the Armed Forces, ministers of foreign affairs, interior and intelligence, and the head of the Plan and Budget Organization are members of the National Security Council.

### Shamkhani Discusses Naval Readiness, Maneuvers

*LD2511185889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] To commemorate the day the "Peykan" defeated the Iraqi regime's ships, Rear-Admiral Shamkhani, the Islamic Republic of Iran's (IRI) naval commander, told the press this evening that joint Army-IRGC [Islamic Revolution Guard Corps] naval units will carry out exercises this month. Remarking that the Islamic Republic of Iran had, from the early days of the war, possessed the capability to face the Iraqi regime, he said: The marines on the "Peykan" delivered a final and fatal blow to the Iraqi naval force. Just as the Khormashahr conquest changed the course of the war on land in favor of the IRI, the "Peykan" tipped the balance of power at sea in favor of the IRI—a superiority which has been maintained.

Remarking that the IRI's naval force has full control over the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, he said: The IRI intends to maintain this situation forever. Rear-Admiral Shamkhani, the navy commander, reiterated that the deployment of the Islamic combat capability in the war against the invaders would cause the enemy forces' defeat, and said: Today, not only do we have no problems with regard to assembling and organizing the existing capability of the naval forces, but we are fast engaged in coordinating these capabilities, the first form of which will become apparent in the joint Army-IRGC naval exercises this month.

He added: This exercise is an experimental and operational one. Some exercises which have not as yet been attempted will be implemented through the deployment of a correct composition of the IRGC and Army naval forces' resources. We are trying—with the special guidance of the leadership—to move toward a point from which we will be able to increase the collective naval capability of the Islamic Republic through experience and expertise of the domestic forces and suitable foreign technology.

In conclusion, Rear-Admiral Shamkhani added: The joint IRGC-Army naval exercises will last a week and will commence during the last 10 days of Azar [month beginning 28 November] in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

### Navy Commander Comments on Training Situation

*LD1711225189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Nov 89*

[Text] Commodore Shamkhani, the Navy commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI), who has gone to Gilan Province to inspect the Navy's scientific and training centers in the province, was interviewed by the Central News Unit in Rasht this morning. While stressing the need for learning modern and sophisticated marine tactics, he said: Our task today is to pay as much attention as possible to the issue of training in the Navy; in view of the existence of top training centers in Gilan

Province, the aim is to increase the training capability of this Navy through fundamental transformation and through basic and careful planning.

About the Navy's mission to guard our country's borders in the strategic Persian Gulf, he said: Thanks to the commander-in-chief's particular favor toward the Navy, the principal task is to increase the combat capability of the Navy so that we can answer any threat in the region; and for this purpose some programs are now compiled. To that end, extensive training maneuvers will be staged in the near future with the Navy and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps participating.

Commodore Shamkhani added: All efforts are directed toward rebuilding and upgrading the navy's capability. We have the ability to shoulder big responsibilities in defense of the Islamic revolution in our country's waters. In performing these responsibilities, we shall act with might and courage.

On improving the Navy's scientific and technical level, the Navy commander said: The power of knowledge, responsibility, and commitment are considered the three main factors which will contribute to the Navy's progress in various fields. Now we have suitable, deep, and powerful knowledge in the Navy, and this knowledge should be passed on to the personnel who join the Navy.

On the self-sufficiency jihad, he said: In view of the existence of creative and sound talents in the Navy, the aim is to employ those talents toward further realization of the self-sufficiency goal. The reconstruction job on the Sabalan warship in the country's first marine zone, which is currently in progress with admirable achievements, depict a very bright future for the Navy, capable of carrying out full reconstruction and building works.

### RESALAT Cited on Future of Guards Corps

*LD2111160589 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 21 Nov 89*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 21, IRNA—The Persian daily RESALAT said in its editorial Tuesday that the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps should remain forever integrated with the rest of the Armed Forces if it is to safeguard the revolution and the nation.

It said the Armed Forces and military technology will for a long time in the future continue to play their traditional roles even though the Warsaw Pact and the NATO alliance should be dissolved.

RESALAT said recently the enemies of the Islamic revolution published rumours in Iran about a planned dissolution of one of the two basic components of the Armed Forces with a view to creating threats against the revolution and paving the way for "a third Qadesiyah."

The daily said: "There is no denying that the nation owes it to the complementary roles of the Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Basij (paramilitary forces) for responding as it did to the devastating wave of the enemy forces, a role which, for the sake of the Islamic Revolution, should not be questioned...

"Political scientists know too well that armed forces and especially military technology will continue to play their special role for many years to come, even though at not-too-distant future we may witness the collapse of the Warsaw Pact and the NATO alliance...

"Under the present circumstances the indispensible duty of the state administrators would be to provide for a proper ground on which the IRGC may build solid bases for the creation of a 20-million army of Muslims as was one of the aspirations of the patriarch of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni."

### 18-19 Nov Military Maneuvers in South Noted

*LD1911192189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Nov 89*

[Text] In order to maintain the combative-defensive power of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces, the "Nasr" maneuvers were staged in one of the southern sectors of the country by the combatants of the First Independent Marine Brigade No 45 [as heard].

The Central News Unit reports that these exercises began last night and have continued throughout today. In those exercises, our own fully equipped forces utilized the two elements of nighttime darkness and surprise, and broke the blockades of the imaginary enemy, which was soon subjected to relentless attacks. The participating forces then made the imagined enemy retreat and surrender its positions.

### President Sends Message to Shiraz Basij Seminar

*LD2411110189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] The great seminar on the Basij from the viewpoint of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, started its work in Shiraz with a message from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The president's message said:

While we are marking the anniversary of the Basij under conditions when the symbol of sacrifice and steadfastness, the late great leader of the Islamic revolution and the leader and master of the Basijis is not longer in our midst, the sublime goals and the organizations of the Basij, and above all, the Basij mentality is still governing our culture and the order of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Another part of the president's message emphasized: The Basij is, in fact, the preparedness of a nation to fight against world arrogance, colonialism, corruption, and all those who wish to move against the dignity, freedom, and independence of individuals and nations.

The president's message also noted: What should be pointed out at this juncture is that the Basij is not merely

a military organization; rather, military action is a reflection of the move of the Basijis. The Basij can and should be very effective in the reconstruction of the country, in defending the sublime goals of the revolution, in fighting against illiteracy, in expanding genuine Islamic culture, and in all other fields. A Basij member is a great human being and gnostic who has lost himself in divine aspiration and who, like the saints and holy people, carries the load of sacrifice and endeavor in the path of God.

At the end of his message, the president expressed his appreciation to all the sincere and self-sacrificing Basijis and to all those who have convened the seminar on the Basij from the viewpoint of the imam, may he be admitted to his paradise. [passage omitted]

### Majlis Deputy Comments on Duties of New Cabinet

*NC2311221789 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian*
*14 Nov 89 p 16*

[Text] KEYHAN's political section—In answer to KEYHAN's question: "What is among the most important executive jobs of the government?" Da'ud Haj Naseri, Zanjan deputy in the Majlis, has sent us the following article:

The constitution of a country is the basis for the activities of its legislative, executive, and judiciary branches, and the extent to which a constitution is observed shows the faithfulness of the institutions of each branch to laws and to their implementation in society. Also, a nation's political, social, cultural, and economic laws are linked with the practical implementation of its constitution.

Two things are mandatory in the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the independence, freedom, and welfare of the people depend on them:
1. Obeying the decrees of, and avoiding doing anything that is prohibited by, the vice-regency of the supreme jurisconsult, who is the heart of the Islamic rule; and
2. Obeying the Constitution, which is the fundamental and permanent program of the system.

I think that the most important duty of the new cabinet is to act according to the Constitution and to the laws approved by the Majlis. In executive affairs, the following should be granted priority: creating jobs; harnessing inflation and fighting high prices; fighting bureaucracy; bringing revolutionary bills to the Majlis for approval; introducing a system of praise and punishment; setting up organs to carry out careful, practical, and serious control over farmers in a bid to elevate production and to achieve agricultural development; fighting against middlemen and strengthening the process of "from production to consumption" in order to support producers and consumers; strengthening the mining industry and establishing plants next to mines in order to supply the plants' raw material needs by spending less; using manpower and attracting capital; and encouraging the people's participation in the management of the country in order to achieve self-sufficiency and economic growth. Article 28 of the Constitution has delineated one of the government's most heavy and most significant duties as follows: "The government should provide all the people with the means of employment under equal conditions for employment with due consideration for the need of society for different professions."

Article 29 charges the government with the duty of ensuring social security in cases of retirement, unemployment, old age, disability, and unprotectedness, and cases calling for health and therapeutic services—all of these services to be financed from public revenue or income derived from public participation.

In short, the people expect of an effective government, which is faithful to the principles, ideals, and objectives of the Islamic revolution, in view of its composition—experts and people with revolutionary experience headed by His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani—that it will make the best use of the people's thoughts, proposals, and criticisms as well as of the rich resources of the country. They also expect that by taking into consideration the long-term and short-term interests of the revolution, the government will fulfill the expectations of the Muslim Iranian nation and dampen the hopes of our enemies more and more each day. I consider the success of the Islamic government of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani to mean the success of the revolution and of the system and believe that this government should be assisted.

### Majlis Commission Approves Development Plan

*LD2411030489 Tehran IRNA in English 0658 GMT 23 Nov 89*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 23, IRNA—Islamic Republic's first five-year economic, social and cultural development plan was approved by the Majlis Plan and Budget Commission here Wednesday [22 November].

The commission forwarded the bill to the Majlis for debate and final approval. Debate on the bill is expected to start in the open session of the Majlis next week.

The commission approved the plan, originally formulated by the government of former prime minister Husayn Musavi, after deliberations in more than one hundred sessions at the presence of related ministers and experts.

The Majlis is expected to ratify the bill within 15 days after which it must be endorsed by the Guardian's Council.

### Editorial on Need To Support Economic Policy

*NC2411212989 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian*
*19 Nov 89 pp 1, 10*

[Editorial: "The Main Levers of the Government"]

[Excerpts] On the threshold of momentous changes in the country's economy, Hojjat ol-Esalm val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani called on the people to participate actively in the tasks of production and construction.

This call comes at a time when the first phases of the implementation of the government's plans in the economic field have been completed successfully. In order to embark on the next phase, the government needs the support and enthusiasm of the people. [passage omitted]

The crux of the matter is that the government must differentiate between two different groups using investment capital. One group wishes only to see its investments make a profit, but the other group wants to use its capital "as a lever to exert pressure" on the government and the system and to use the government's economic programs to serve its own ends.

The first group believes it is necessary to adopt a healthy course for economic activity under intensive supervision and avoid its transformation into a lever that can be used to exert pressure. However, in dealing with the second group, the government should categorically warn against such intentions and take practical action to prevent any attempts to obstruct the implementation of useful programs. [passage omitted]

The housing, education, and population problems, as well as the unacceptable level of public amenities, may be considered as separate issues but all have their roots in indiscriminate relocation. In any case, these are only a few of the problems generated by urban migration. The "greatest blow" however comes from the rural influx to the cities, which deprives the rural population of useful manpower in production centers.

It appears that the government and the decisionmaking and policymaking bodies are tackling these problems and have a clear and satisfactory program to solve the country's economic problems. [passage omitted]

In his Friday prayers sermon, the president told the people: "The government's greatest resource in improving the conditions existing in the country is the people's cooperation. If the people do not cooperate, a government cannot succeed in attaining its objectives."

These remarks by the president indicate that in the implementation of its programs, the government is banking on the cooperation of the people, who are the "main levers" in the successful implementation of its plans. This is a logical expectation on the part of a government chosen by the people—an expectation that once again emphasizes the "people's responsibility" in this regard.

### Official on Achievements in Drug Enforcement

*NC2211093989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mr Mirlowhi, deputy general commander of the Islamic Revolution Committees, attended a meeting of the commanders of mountain passes of the Islamic Revolution Committees and discussed the tasks of this group.

Mr Mirlowhi said: Since its formation, the group has arrested 16,432 drug addicts and 832 drug smugglers, and confiscated 3,832 kg of drugs, 21 weapons, and 30 vehicles. He added: Thanks to the efforts of the drug enforcement revolution guards over the past year, about 10 tonnes of drugs were found in the country's mountain passes. In the past few days, about 2,000 kg of drugs were confiscated from the merchants of death and 11 vast networks involved in drug manufacturing and distribution have been identified and disbanded.

## Pakistan

### Afghan Rebels To Return 2 Soviet POW's 27 Nov

*BK2611030089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 Nov 89*

[Text] The Afghan interim government tomorrow evening is handing over to the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan in Peshawar two Soviet prisoners of war [POW's] who were taken during the war in Afghanistan. The two Soviet soldiers will be reunited with their mothers, who are in Pakistan with a seven-member delegation. This is the first occasion of release of Soviet POW's since the Soviet troops' pullout from Afghanistan this year.

### Team Seeking Release Arrives

*BK2411155089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 Nov 89*

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet peace committee for the release of prisoners of war [POW's] and missing Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan arrived in Islamabad this afternoon. It has come to Pakistan in connection with the release of two POW's who were captured by mujahidin in Afghanistan. The delegation comprises parents of missing soldiers and mothers of two POW's to be released by the mujahidin within a day or two in a humanitarian gesture and a spirit of goodwill towards the Soviet people.

Talking to newsmen on his arrival, delegation leader Andronov expressed gratitude to the Government of Pakistan and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for their efforts in seeking the release of the two POW's.

Earlier in a statement, a senior Foreign Office official said the Pakistani Government considers the issue of the POW's a humanitarian problem. The government had requested the Afghan Interim Government [AIG] leadership release these Soviet POW's, which was acceded to by the AIG. The official expressed hope the Soviet leaders would reciprocate the gesture.

### Daily Views Improvement in USSR Relations

*BK2611064489 Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu 9 Nov 89 p 3*

[Editorial: "Improvement in Pakistani-Soviet Relations"]

[Text] While briefly expressing her views on Pakistani-Soviet relations during her chat with newsmen at a function held at the Soviet Embassy, Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto said that after the accession to power of the Pakistan People's Party government, relations with the Soviets have improved and the process of improvement will continue. She also revealed that the minister of state for production and a high-level delegation soon will visit the Soviet Union, where the minister will hold talks with Soviet authorities on improving economic relations between the two countries. She said the Soviet Union has agreed to provide $100 million in assistance for the expansion of the Pakistan Steel Mills.

During different regimes, Pakistani-Soviet relations have gone through several ups and downs. During the regime of martyr [Zulfiqar Ali] Bhutto, these relations had progressed in a particular direction, and thanks to that progress, the Soviet Union exhibited extraordinary interest in setting up a steel mill in Pakistan, which provided a basis for the industries here. During that period, economic relations between the two countries also were gradually improving. Had not the regime of martyr Bhutto been toppled, these relations would have progressed further, and more steps would have been taken for the stability of the national economy. However, martial law was imposed in the country after terminating the elected government of Bhutto. This affected various organizations at home and brought several conspicuous changes in the foreign policy as well, causing a downward trend in Pakistan's relations with the Soviet Union, Libya, Syria, and other countries. It should be noted that during this period, the arrival of Soviet forces in Afghanistan began and the U.S. interest in this region suddenly increased. This [Afghanistan] dispute also badly affected Pakistani-Soviet relations. The relations became so tense there was a feeling of direct threat to the security of Pakistan from the Soviet Union. After the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan and after the end of the dictatorial rule in Pakistan, once again there has been an expectation of cordial relations between the two countries. After coming to power, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto gave a new turn to Pakistani-Soviet relations. At official level, there has been a widespread feeling that despite varying stands on the Afghanistan issue, economic relations between the two countries can be improved. Meanwhile, in the Soviet Union also, the new leadership has adopted a moderate attitude and brought changes to the past ideology on establishing relations with communist and noncommunist countries, and this attitude can be seen in Moscow.

The efforts for promoting economic relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union not only are in the interest of the two countries, but also will help reduce overall tension in the region. It will be in Pakistan's interests if its foreign policy is not tilted toward any one superpower, but remains balanced. The bad shape of our economy warrants us to take advantage of cooperation from anywhere for improving and stabilizing our economy. The $100 million assistance from the Soviet Union for the expansion of the steel mill is an excellent expression of the Soviet Union's good will. Concrete steps should be taken to expand cooperation with the Soviets to other sectors as well.

### New Northern Districts, Subdivision Created

*BK2711074889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 27 Nov 89*

[Text] The federal government has created two new districts—Ghaz Ab and (Ghanche)—after reorganizing the northern areas. It also has created a new subdivision, which will be called Siachen Subdivision.

## Sri Lanka

### 'Entire Politburo' of JVP Reported Arrested

*BK2511114489 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] The entire Politburo of the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] and 25 district and area leaders of the organization's hit squad, the DJV [Deshapremi Janatha Viyaparaya], including its chief Kirti Vijaybahu, a university dropout, have been apprehended by the security forces during the past 2 weeks.

Security forces told LANKAPUVATH that apart from Rohana Wijeweera and Upatissa Gamanayake, who were killed, the man who styled himself the JVP's military wing leader, Kirti Vijaybahu, was apprehended. Others arrested or killed in combat included Ashanta Bandare, Priyadasa Ranasinghe, and Adhikari alias Ananda who led the authorities to Wijeweera. He was in the habit [as heard] of meeting a Middle East contact in a five-star hotel in Colombo.

A report from Matale in the central hills states that the DJV hit squad leader of Madukalle, S.K. Munasinghe, was shot dead in an encounter with security forces on Thursday [23 November], while his wife, attempting to escape, fell down a precipice and died.

Meanwhile, LANKAPUVATH's Southern Province correspondent states that seven hit squad leaders were among 50 hard-core JVP and DJV subversives apprehended by the security forces; 25 others surrendered to the authorities. A large number of weapons, including pistols, revolvers, explosives, and army and police uniforms, were seized in Thursday's operations by the security forces in the south.

## India Reportedly Training 'Illegal' Tamil Army

*BK2211115589 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 Nov 89*

[Text] President R. Premadasa, commenting on the situation in the Eastern Province, said that Sri Lanka will be cautious not to fall prey to any deliberate campaign of provocation to create a situation to prolong the stay of the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] in Sri Lanka. The president made these observations to members of Parliament at the Government Parliamentary Group meeting held at the Parliament complex on Monday [20 November].

Several members called for strong action against the illegal army formed by the Northeastern provincial council chief minister, Varadaraja Perumal, in collaboration with the IPKF. The president said that it is not that the Sri Lankan security forces cannot launch an all-out offensive against such illegal armies; it could be construed by interested parties as an attempted [word indistinct] by the Sinhalese to persecute Tamils and, thus, create an impression justifying the continued presence of Indian troops in the country. The Sri Lankan security forces have been sent to the Eastern Province to maintain peace. They will defend the government institutions and the people.

The president said that they all knew with what great difficulty agreement was reached with India to withdraw the Indian troops from the country by the end of December this year. Several batches of troops have already been withdrawn. The government on its part made the necessary arrangements, as agreed, to provide security in the Eastern Province after the IPKF started withdrawing. They set up the security monitoring committee in which the minister of state for defense, the IPKF commander, as well as the chief minister of the Northeastern Province and other officials are represented. It also planned to set up the necessary security forces for the province by recruiting people from the area on an ethnic population ratio basis.

It was in this situation that the government came to know that an army is being raised in the Northern and Eastern Provinces without any legal sanctions. When he asked the IPKF commander whether the IPKF was training any army in the province, the commander admitted that this was so. The president said that he told the commander that it was wrong for the IPKF to train an illegal army. The president said that the violence unleashed by this illegal army in the Eastern Province was a deliberate attempt to provoke the Sri Lankan security forces into a confrontation and then show that the Sri Lankan armed forces were again persecuting the Tamil-speaking people and, thus, justify the continued presence of Indian troops on Sri Lankan soil. There are serious doubts entertained whether the recent incidents in the Eastern Province were orchestrated to gain a political clout with the Indian general elections close at hand.

The president said some people may not have thought that there would be an end to the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] problem so soon, allowing the Sri Lankan security forces to be dispatched there to maintain peace when the IPKF withdraws from there. They would not fall prey to such machinations. The Sri Lankan forces are in the Eastern Province to maintain peace without taking sides. Organizing such unprovoked attacks on the Sri Lankan security forces shows that they seem to be doing everything to prolong IPKF's presence in the country. With these provocations they expect the Sri Lankan forces to retaliate. The government would wait and see how things develop.

The president made a fervent appeal to all Tamil groups in the Northern and Eastern Provinces to act with restraint and cooperate to restore peace quickly so as to start on the task of rehabilitating and rebuilding, and extricate the people from the miseries that the years of conflict and violence has brought about. It is the responsibility of the Government of Sri Lanka to give protection to all the communities—Sinhala, Tamil, Muslims, and [word indistinct] who are living in Sri Lanka.

During the meeting, the deputy speaker, Gamini Fonseka, accused the chief minister of the Northeast provincial council, Varadraja Perumal, of conniving with India and operating a clandestine television service originating in the north of Sri Lanka and beamed to India. He said television transmitting equipment to the value of 3 million dollars has been supplied by India for this illegal television transmission.

The deputy speaker, who said that Varadaraja Perumal has behaved in a treacherous manner, asked as to why he should not be removed from his position as chief minister, and if it is to be done how long it would take to do so. Mr Fonseka said it is now very clear that Varadaraja Perumal has totally betrayed the trust and confidence placed in him by the government. He has also violated the existing laws of the country by assembling and organizing an illegal army. He is conniving for a foreign country, India, to wage war against Sri Lanka and our forces. Mr Fonseka alleged that Mr Perumal had gathered a large number of women in the North to pose before TV cameras and shout slogans such as: We want India; don't send back the IPKF. This, Mr Fonseka added, was [for] the benefit of the forthcoming Indian general elections.

The minister of foreign affairs and the minister of state for defense, Ranjan Wijeratne, emphasized that it was Mr Varadaraja Perumal himself who first asked that the Sri Lankan army be sent to the Eastern Province after their cadres were attacked by the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. He now protests at the presence of the Sri Lankan army. He said that he has stipulated that all unauthorized camps occupied by the illegal army should be vacated forthwith.

### Parliament Extends State of Emergency 1 Month

*BK2511111689 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] The resolution to extend the state of emergency by another month was passed in Parliament last night with a majority of 52 votes; 117 members voted for the resolution and 65 against it.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and State Minister for Defense Ranjan Wijeratne said that the police and the armed forces were taking into custody those engaged in subversive activities under the emergency. He said that several subversive leaders have been taken into custody and many are being searched for.

### LTTE Issues Statement on Recent Tamil Killings

*BK2311074889 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0532 GMT 23 Nov 89*

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 23 Nov (LANKAPUVATH) - The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] yesterday expressed "deep sorrow and shock over the brutal murder of 42 Muslims by illegal Indian mercenaries called the Tamil National Army [TNA]," adding that they "vehemently condemn this barbarous act."

The group's political committee, in a statement issued from headquarters yesterday, also said:

"This illegal TNA is functioning as an instrument of terror in the North-Eastern Provincial Council and a military extension of the Indian occupation forces. There should be no doubt that this mass murder of innocent Muslims must have been masterminded by the Indian Government and the Indian occupation army.

"It is a well known fact that our fighters enjoyed wider sympathy and support from the Muslim community in the Eastern Province during the Indo-LTTE war, which angered the Indian Army and its armed quislings. Because of this, the Muslim people have been subjected to enormous suffering at the hands of the Indians and their armed gangs. We are of the opinion that these mass murders are revenge killings to punish and to terrorise the Muslim people.

Secondly, this terrorist act was committed deliberately to create a state of tension in an area vacated by the Indians and to provoke the Sri Lankan Army into offensive action, thereby creating conditions to legitimise the continuous occupation of the Indian Army. Thirdly, this cowardly attack on the Muslims was intended to create communal tension between the Tamil and Muslim people.

"We hope the Tamil and Muslim people in the Eastern Province will understand the diabolical intentions of the Indian Government and its puppet groups. At this critical juncture we wish to make it absolutely clear that our organisation will continue to fight for communal unity, physical security and for the political emancipation of the Tamil and Muslim people."

### 'Uneasy' Calm in Amparai After Fierce Battle

*BK2411095589 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0836 GMT 24 Nov 89*

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 24 Nov (LANKAPUVATH)—There was an uneasy quiet this morning after a fierce battle last night in which the illegally constituted Tamil National Army [TNA] suffered heavy casualties in the usually bustling coastal town of Kalmunai in the eastern Amparai District. Kalmunai has a predominantly Muslim population. The situation was described as tense by the police.

The town has been under attack by the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] Tamil National Army of Northeast Chief Minister Varadaraja Perumal, armed and trained by the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force]. Security sources said that Sri Lankan troops had to open up with heavy artillery last night to halt a TNA advance on the Army detachment situated at the Kalmunai rest house after a two hour barrage. The sources said that the TNA had advanced to within 50 yards of the Army camp but the attackers who were moving forward under the cover of Indian made rocket propelled grenades and mortar fire were stopped in their tracks by the heavy guns of the Sri Lanka Army, and suffered heavy casualties.

The only army casualty was a corporal who was wounded. Last night's attack by the TNA lasted two hours from 1830 hours to 2030 hours (local time).

Earlier, yesterday, the TNA attacked the police stations at Kalmunai, Akkaraipattu and Chavalkadai, but these attacks were repulsed. There were heavy rains in the Amparai District from soon after noon yesterday and this temporarily halted the attacks. But the TNA attacks resumed at nightfall.

The EPRLF-led TNA has launched attacks on the police and the Army and killed over 50 Muslims in the Amparai District in an attempt to prolong the stay of the IPKF which has vacated Amparai and is in the process of vacating the Batticaloa District. All Indian troops are to leave Sri Lanka by the end of December, according to an agreement reached between India and Sri Lanka.

Hundreds of refugees, victims of the reckless TNA attacks were reported crossing the Kallar Bridge which links the Amparai and Batticaloa Districts.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne yesterday said that as a result of the TNA attacks in Amparai about 13,000 refugees had fled to Batticaloa and the government had authorised officials to look after them and the cabinet has voted Rs. 1 million a day for their upkeep.

Meanwhile, a group of the illegal Tamil National Army calling itself the 'Singing Fish Regiment' has released leaflets claiming responsibility for the attacks on Sri Lankan security installations in Amparai District. The leaflets signed by Khalid of the so-called TNA claims that the TNA has been successful in its attacks and will keep on attacking the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and the Sri Lankan forces.

### 40 Killed in Violence in South, Central Areas

*BK2511050089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 25 Nov 89*

[Text] The [Indian] Peacekeeping Force [PKF] will complete its withdrawal from the Batticaloa sector in the Northeastern Province of Sri Lanka by this month end. A PKF press release issued in Madras yesterday said the island's security coordination (?unit) has been advised to take necessary steps to maintain law and order in the area.

In Sri Lanka, 40 persons were killed yesterday in continuing violence in central and southern parts. Agency reports quoting official sources said that the bullet-ridden bodies of 18 suspected JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] men were found near Kandy. They were believed to be killed by a vigilante group in retaliation for the burning of five state-owned buses nearby on Thursday. In Matara, five similar bullet-ridden bodies were recovered. Elsewhere, in the southern parts of the island, JVP extremists killed at least 15 persons, including 3 police personnel.